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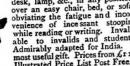
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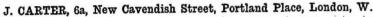


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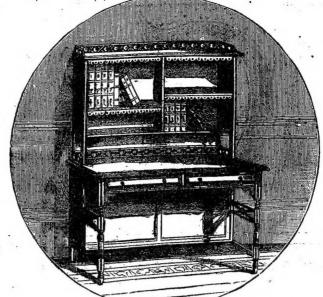
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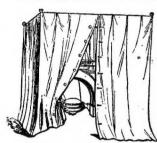
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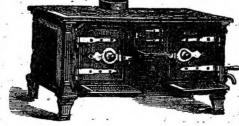
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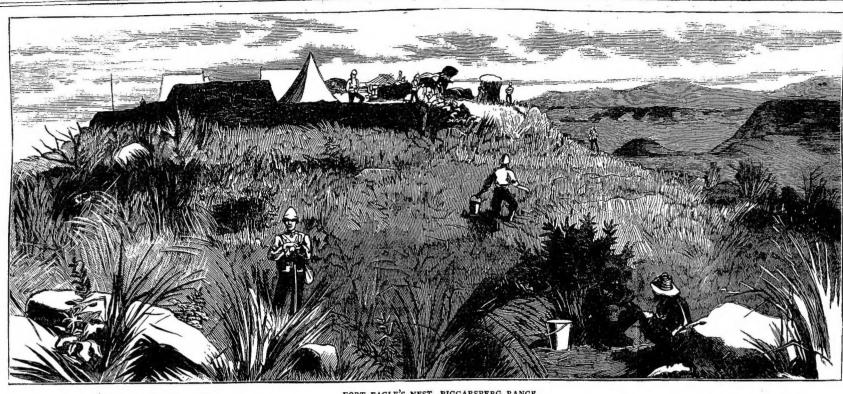
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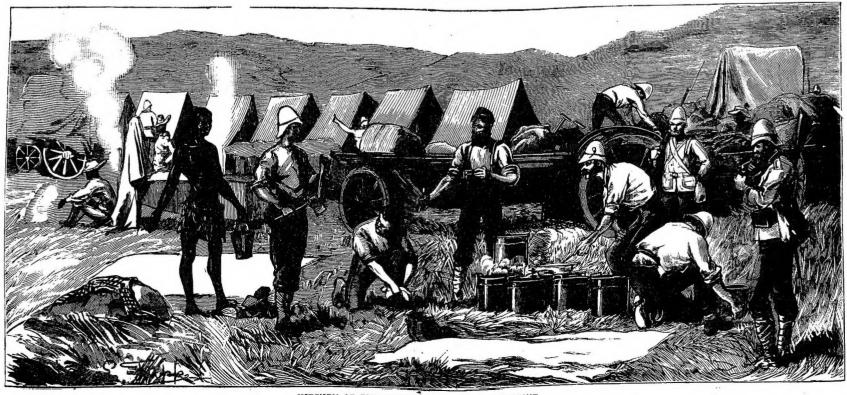
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LORD BEACONSFIELD .- The impression produced by the death of Lord Beaconsfield is a brilliant testimony to his greatness. Not in England only, but throughout Europe and America, it is felt that a figure of the foremost rank has vanished from the political life of the world. It may be questioned whether, since the death of Canning, to which Lord Beaconsfield alludes so impressively in "Endymion," any English statesman has left so great a blank; and it is, indeed, hardly likely that the kind of interest which he has always excited will ever be aroused in the same measure again. All through his career he stirred curiosity not less as a man than as a politician. Men instinctively felt that in him they were confronted by a strange and potent genius; and even his bitterest enemies could not help watching with a certain sympathy his steady advance from an obscure station to power and fame. Never were the dreams of youth, apparently almost madly extravagant, more magnificently realised; and although it is a mistake to suppose that he was not in some degree favoured by fortune, he certainly owed his pre-eminence mainly to his own intellectual capacity and resolute will. He has often been accused of caring for nothing but his personal advantage; but for this harsh judgment there is no evidence, and it has been generously repudiated by so cool and discriminating an opponent as Lord Hartington. Whether we believe his influence to have been, on the whole, good or bad, there can at any rate be no doubt that he has affected the current of events in his day as powerfully as any statesman of the last two generations. Democracy would have triumphed in the end even if he had not lived; but without his intervention, by the establishment of household suffrage, it would not have been so near its goal as it is, or seems to be, now. The present Government strives to undo the results of his foreign policy; but at the same time it profits by that revival of English authority on the Continent which was due to his vigour and determination in a great national crisis. A statesman whose achievements were so solid will have a secure place in history; and we may be sure that it is not his inconsistencies, but the splendid elements of his career, with which his name will be chiefly associated by posterity.

IRISH EMIGRATION. --- The most sanguine supporters of the Land Bill can scarcely expect that it will prove a panacea for the manifold ills with which Ireland is afflicted, and therefore they are doubtless prepared to supplement that legislative change with other remedial measures. Among these emigration assuredly occupies a very important place. Many proposals of relief have never got beyond the region of theory, whereas emigration for upwards of thirty years has been practised on a large scale, and with signal success. It is almost impossible to picture what the condition of the sister island would be at the present time if all the men and women who since 1846 have left Ireland to push their fortunes in Great Britain, in America, and in Australia had stayed at home. The great mass of these voluntary exiles have not only improved their own circumstances, but they have poured a perennial flood of money into the old home, either for the purpose of bringing relations out, or to support the aged and decrepit in comparative comfort in their native land. Nor should we forget the solid benefits conferred by these emigrants on the various countries of their adoption. A vast deal of the hard and rough work both of England and Scotland, and of the Western and the Southern hemispheres, has been performed by these self-expatriated Irishmen and Irishwomen. Only the other day Mr. Archer, a veteran colonist, lecturing on Queensland, stated that half the men who had passed through the hands of his firm in that colony were Irish, and he spoke in the highest terms of their faithful and Bearing in mind these facts, it is difficult valuable service. to understand the prejudice which Mr. Parnell, who professes to be the spokesman of his countrymen, displays against emigration. He would like, he says, to bring back all the Irish who have gone to England, and find employment for them at home. But could he do so? Manufacturing enterprise is not created in a day, and Ireland, as an agricultural country, is even now, with all the depletion it has undergone, pretty densely peopled. And Mr. Parnell contradicts his own theory when he declares that "the Irish race is too strong at home and abroad to permit any further trifling." We fully admit this foreign strength, this American Ireland, this Australian Ireland, but if these people had stayed at home they could not possibly have multiplied as they have done. There are probably three times as many persons of Irish blood out of Ireland as there are in Ireland, and Mr. Parnell must be a clever conjuror if he can manage to pack all these good folks comfortably into their own tight little

THE TORY PARTY. —Now that their great chief is gone, the Conservatives will soon have to appoint a successor; and the task will not be an easy one. Had Lord Derby remained in the late Ministry, he would probably have become, as a matter of course, the head of the party; but now some statesman of a very different temper must be selected. That Sir Stafford Northcote will receive the place of supremacy is unlikely; for, although no public man is more generally liked, he lacks the force which is essential in a leader, especially in a leader confronted by such opponents

as those who are now in office. Lord Salisbury is too caustic even for his friends; Lord Cairns is too closely associated with a particular party in the Church to please all sections of Tories. Yet the choice seems to lie between these two statesmen, if they do not agree to waive their claims and to render a nominal submission to the Duke of Richmond. However the matter may be decided, the Conservatives must be well aware that, if their task was difficult even before Lord Beaconsfield's death, it is far more formidable now. His genius shed lustre on the movement which he represented; he retained to the last a powerful hold over the intellect and imagination of the country. Now the work of Conservatism must be done by men who, however able, are without the highest kind of distinction. Politicians on a level with Lord Granville, Lord Hartington, Sir William Harcourt, the Tories possess; but they have no statesman who rivals Mr. Gladstone, or even Mr. Bright, in reputation and authority. And it is to be feared that the intellectual quality of Toryism will not improve under the influence of those who will now control its destinies. None of them have given evidence of Lord Beaconsfield's quiet strength, sagacity, and moderation.

TUNIS.—As far as outsiders can judge, glory no longer exercises its fatal fascination over the average Frenchman. The memories of the "terrible year" are still fresh, and reflecting men are disquieted by the thought that a little war may easily be converted into a big war. Tunis is much nearer Europe than Abyssinia or Ashantee. It is on the shores of the great inland sea which the French have often been accused of wishing to convert into a private lake; and other nations are jealously watching the operations of the Frank invaders of the Bey's dominions. What the respectable tax-paying French citizen would like would be something a little in excess of a mere military promenade, a sharp action or two, in which the Kroumirs should receive a thorough drubbing, causing a wholesome attitude of submissiveness in the mind of the Bey, and allowing "our brave boys" to return home with a decent share of glory before the heat of the African summer came on. This no doubt would be very pleasant; but will the reality be of this character? The Kroumirs are not numerous, but they may be difficult to catch; they may keep the invaders vainly chasing them from pillar to post, and becoming exhausted by fatigue and weariness. even if the Bey remains ostensibly neutral, Moslem enthusiasm and inherent love of fighting may furnish the Kroumirs with some formidable allies from among his subjects. Thus the job in hand may become bigger and bigger, more troops may be needed, till at last France may find, as we have so often found in our Indian wars, that she has no choice between retreat and annexation. The latter word at once conjures up the vision of an angry and excited Italy; and though Italy would not single-handed engage in war with France, she might bide her time, and prove a dangerous foe in some future complication. We trust that these gloomy anticipations may be falsified; but, looking at past precedents, it is difficult to avoid some misgivings.

GREECE AND THE NEW FRONTIER .-—Greece accepted the latest proposals of the Powers in an ungracious manner; but, after all, the important fact is that she did accept them. And perhaps M. Coumoundouros knew what he was about in seeming to flout Europe. The Greek people by no means like the present scheme; and at one time it seemed likely that, rather than accede to it, they would rush into war or effect a revolution. To address the Powers in an almost insulting and menacing tone was to soothe, in some degree, the wounded susceptibilities of the nation; and the Greek Premier well understood that his wild language would not be very seriously resented anywhere except in Constantinople. Even there, he had good reason to hope, the fact of his adopting a defiant tone would have a beneficial effect; since it would remind the Sultan that Greece was still prepared, in case of necessity, to assert her claims by force. difficulty now is to determine whether the Sultan has been in earnest in his concessions, and whether the influences which overawed him will be able to prevent him from resigning the territory which he has promised to cede. By the Treaty of Berlin he solemnly undertook to confer certain advantages on the Montenegrins; yet we know how hard it was for Europe, after many delays, to induce him to fulfil his engagement. It would be rash to assume that he will be more compliant in the present instance. For the sake of the peace of the world it is to be hoped that some of the Powers will enough to persuade him to give way. Greeks, notwithstanding their warlike talk, have little inclination to enter upon a life-and-death struggle; but, if the Porte is obstinate, they cannot, after all that has passed, consent to be put off with vague pledges. We are now near the final decision, and a graver issue has seldom been raised in modern times than that which Turkey is called upon to

THE MAIWAND COURTS-MARTIAL.——We have unfortunately become accustomed of late years to military disasters, and usually, we may even say invariably, at the hands of enemies whose prowess we rated as considerably below our own. This statement holds good both of Zulus, Afghans, and Boers; and this easy self-confidence is the key to the defeats we have suffered. Painful, however, as these mishaps have been, it is almost more painful that British officers should be deliberately accused of cowardice. Yet such was

the charge against Major Currie and Colonel Malcolmson at the courts-martial which have been held subsequent to the Battle of Maiwand. As regards these individual officers, it is satisfactory to learn that the evidence which was relied on to establish their guilt proved utterly insufficient, and that, in fact, they were fully exonerated. But the worst of it is that their alleged misdeeds were wiped away at the cost of the characters of their superiors, the men at whose instigation these proceedings were instituted. The evidence which cleared away the tarnish from the names of Messrs. Malcolmson and Currie tends to dull the reputation of Generals Burrows and Nuttall. Is not a further court-martial now needed to enable these officers to justify their own conduct on that disastrous day, especially as the late Indian Commander-in-Chief has already expressed his censure of General Burrows' operations?

IRISH LANDLORDS AND THE LAND BILL.-All Irish landlords are not opposed to the Land Bill, but the majority of them, it would appear, look upon it with little favour. They admit that if it became law their position would be better than it has been for some years, since they would once more have peace, at least for a time; but they complain that they would hold their estates under conditions novel, onerous, and of uncertain operation. Lord Lansdowne proposes that in these circumstances any landlords who prefer to divest themselves of their estates should be afforded by the State an opportunity of doing so. If the Bill does not take from landlords any rights to which they are at present entitled, this suggestion has, of course, no claim to serious consideration; but if the landlords can show that the measure would deprive them of property without compensation, a fairly good case might be made out for Lord Lansdowne's scheme. For a landlord could not say he was unjustly treated if it was in his option either to hold his land on new conditions or to sell it on reasonable terms. To those who are anxious for the establishment of a peasant proprietary the plan ought to commend itself, since, as Lord Lansdowne shows, the purchase of holdings from landlords is not likely to be very common. In the first place, the agitators have a strong hope that they will be able still further to depreciate the value of land; and, in the second place, tenants will receive so many benefits from the Bill that it will not be worth their while to become owners. In the case of land transferred to the State these benefits would be less numerous; and there would not be much chance of forcing sales at low prices. This reasoning is just, as far as it goes; but Lord Lansdowne does not sufficiently appreciate the difficulties which the State would encounter, and the dangers to which it would be exposed, by incurring the immense and untried obligations which he desires to impose upon it.

HOMEOPATHY.--It is an old satirical charge against the medical profession that rival professors of the healing art are wont to quarrel at the bedside of their patient. Some jealousies of this sort were aroused during Lord Beaconsfield's prolonged illness, but the hostile feelings, such as they were, were evoked without rather than within the chamber of sickness, and there is no reason to suppose that they shortened the life of the illustrious patient by a single hour. Indeed, this skirmishing will have done good rather than harm if it has afforded the public a clearer understanding why homeopathists are regarded with prejudice by the orthodox members of the profession. It is not because they regard the doctrines of homœopathy as unscientific, but because-so the allopathists allege-the homœopathists do not act up to their own principles—in short, because they do not practice homœopathy. Homœopathy, according to its chief apostle, Hahnemann, is based mainly on two principles. The first is that like cures like, that is, that the drug which produces the same symptoms as the disease is the most efficient remedy for that disease; the second, that the efficiency of medicines is proportionately enhanced by infinitesimal subdivision. This second principle has been illustrated thus. If a drop of a certain tincture be mingled with the waters of the Thames at Teddington, a rose dipped in the stream at Westminster Bridge, and held to the nose would impart all the virtues of the original preparation Now, as it was said of Jupiter's worshippers that while he granted a moiety of their prayers, " the t'other half he whistled down the wind," so it is alleged that the homeopathists have quietly dropped the second half of Hahnemann's creed, whose inherent absurdity is manifest.

My wound is great because it is so small, Then t'would be greater if 'twere none at all,

describes it very concisely. They certainly nowadays give powerful doses in urgent cases, and those charming little bottles of comfits with which valetudinarian ladies formerly were so fond of playing are less conspicuous than they were. But we must not end this brief survey without insisting on the substantial benefits conferred by homœopathic teaching. Just as the Ritualistic movement has improved the services of the most Evangelical of churches, so the homocopathic movement has improved medical practice generally. It was a revolt against the calomel, the cupping, and the bleeding from which those of us who are elderly suffered in our youth; it was a resolve to let Nature alone in her healing processes, only removing all possible obstacles out of her way. Thus, although one of their main theories was disputable and the other was absurd, the Hahnemannians brought with them an element of common sense which has tended generally to the elevation and improvement of the art of healing.



BELLE'S STRATAGEM.-TO-DAY, LYCEUM.—1HE BELLES SIRATAGEM.—10-MI, Saturday, April 23rd, will be presented, with New Scenery, Dresses, and Appointments, Mrs. Cowley's comedy, THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM. Doricourt, Mr. Irving; Leitita Hardy, Mrs. Ellen Terry; Miss Sophie Young, Mr. Howe, Mr. Terriss, Mr. Pinero, Mr. Elwood, Mr. Beaumont, &c. Preceded by Tennyson's Tragedy, THE CUP. Synorix, Mr. Irving. Camma, Miss Ellen Terry, Box Office open from 10 to 5, under the direction of Mr. Hurst.

$m M^{R.}$ sims reeves' farewell in oratorio.

MR. SIMS REEVES

MR. SIMS REEVES

Has the honour to announce that with the kind assistance of the ROYAL ALBERT HALL. CHORAL SOCIETY, under the direction of Mr. Bannby, he will give HALL CHORAL CORATORIOPERFORMANCES on the following WEDNESS CORRESPONDED TO THE PROPERTY AND ACCOUNTY AND ACCOUNTY AND ACCOUNTY AND ACCOUNTY AS A LIBERT HALL.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

FIRST CONCERT.
WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 27.
HANDEL'S 'JUDAS MACCABÆUS."
PRINCIPAL ARTISTES:
MADAME CHRISTINE NILSSON,
MADAME TREBELLI,
MR. SANTLEY,

AND
MR. SIMS REEVES.
Orchestra and Chorus 1,000. Band of the Coldstream Guards (by permission).
Organist, Dr. Stainer. Conductor, Mr. Barnby.

Subscription to the series of Seven Evening Concerts—Stalls, £4 4s.; Arena Stalls, £1; Boxes, 15 to 30 Guineas. Single Tickets—Stalls, 15s.; Arena Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Falcony (1st and 2nd Rows), 6s.; Other Rows, 4s.; Boxes, 3 to 5 Guineas. Admission Che Shilling.

Tickets can now be obtained at the usual Agents, Mr. Austin's Office, St. James's Itall, and at the Royal Albert Hall.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL, PLYMOUTH.

ART AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, 1881.

PATRONS.
SIR MASSEY LOPES, BARL, M.P. CAPTAIN PRICE, R.N., M.P. STEWART MACLIVER, ESQ. M.P. J. H. PULESTON, ESQ., M.P.

£200 IN PRIZES.

And One-Third of the Profits of the Exhibition as Supplementary Prizes.

OPENING MONDAY, MAY 23RD.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Cornwall, Somerset, or Dorset; each Competitor being allowed to show three Fictures.

Leo GOLD MEDAL for the best Picture Addal; 3rd, Bronze.

Leo GOLD MEDAL for the best Picture exhibited. Open to all England.

Leo GOLD MEDAL for the best Picture exhibited in the Exhibition.

N.B.—Fictures will not be eligible for this competition.

WINNERS OF THESE GOLD MEDALS WILL BE PAID IN MONEY IF PREFERRED.

too GOLD, SILVER, and BRONZE MEDALS will be given in the following Classes:-

Class 1. Professional Workmanship.
CLASS 2. Amateur Productions, made by Exhibitors who follow some other trade than that to which their articles belong.
CLASS 3. Inventions and Novel Contrivances. To include both Amateur and Professional Workmanship.
CLASS 4. Models, Architectural, Mechanical, Marine, and Ornamental.
CLASS 5. Fine Arts, including Oil and Water-Colour Paintings. Open to all CLASS 6. Oil and Water-Colour Paintings and Drawings.

England.
CLASS 6.
Oil and Water-Colour Paintings and Drawings. Open to all recognised School of Art or Private School.
CLASS 7.
Oil or Water-Colour Paintings. Open to Students of any recognised School of Art or Private School.
CLASS 8.
Carving and Fret Work. Two Classes—Amateur and Professional.
CLASS 10.
CLASS 10.
CLASS 11.
CLASS 12.
CLASS 12.
CLASS 13.
CLASS 14.
CLASS 15.
CLASS 15.
CLASS 16.
CLASS 17.
CLASS 17.
CLASS 18.
CLASS 18.
CLASS 18.
CLASS 19.

Dorset. Each completion with Classes—Amateur and Professional. Sculpture. Preserved Natural Objects. Ladies' Work of all kinds. Musical Instruments. Furniture. Printiure. Furniture. Furniture. Professional Sewing Machines. China Painting. Tricycles, and Sewing Machines. China Painting. Electoral Inventions. Pen and Ink and Crayons by Amateurs. Pottery. Miscellaneous. This will include all objects not properly belonging to their classes.

any of the other classes.

Further particulars may be obtained of the Secretary,

Mr. T. S. MARTIN, Plymouth.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—
Conductor, Sir Michal. Costa.—FRIDAY, April 20, at 7.30, Mendelssohn's
"Elijah." Mesdames Anna Williams, Jessie Jones, M. Hancock, and Patey; Messrs.
Lloyd, Carter, C. Henry, De Lacy, and Santley. Organist, Mr. Williag. Tickets neady, 10s. 6d., 7s., 5s., and 2s. 6d., at Society's Offices, 7, John Street, Adelphi, Austin's, St. James's Itali, and Agents. Norr.—Owing to the invariable great demand for tickets for the Society's performance of "Elijah" early application is desirable to secured numbered seats, 5s., 7s., and ros. 6d.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.

A New First Piece, MANY HAPPY RETURNS, by Gilbert A'Beckett and Clement Scott. Music by Lionel Benson. A New Musical Sketch, OUR INSTITUTE, by Mr. Corney Grain, and a New Second Part, All. AT SEA, by Arthur Law, Music by Corney Grain. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, at 8; Thursday and Saturday, at 3.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place. Admission 15., 25.; Stalls, 35., 55. No fees. Booking Office now open from 10 to 6.

ON and after May the 1st the PAINTINGS of the celebrated Russian Artist, AIVAZOFSKY, will be On View for a short time only at the PAIL MALL GALLERY, Pall Mall, S.W. The famous Paintings, "Columbus Ship in a Storm," and "Columbus Landing on the Island of San Salvador," are alone worth seeing. His Continental reputation among Art critics and Royalty (for whom he has executed several Works of Art), in Italy, Rome, France, and Russia has long been established, and should tempt admirers of fine original Paintings to take an early opportunity of seeing his celebrated Pictures. Admission, 1s. Fridays, 2s. 6d. Catalogue with Biography of Artist, 6d.

CITY OF LONDON SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.—The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will open the SECOND EXHIBITION on APRIL 25. The public admitted on 26th and following days.—Admission 1s.; on Saturdays, 'd.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—
The FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN on MONDAY The FORTY-SEVER 1...
Next, the 25th April.
Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, S.W. H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—
The NINETY-FIFTH EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East, from 10 till 6. Admission, 15. Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D FRIPP Sec. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Sec.

THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION of HIGH-CLASS PICTURES by BRITISH and FOREIGN ARTISTS, including Professor Leopold Carl Muller's Picture, "An Encampment Outside Cairo," is NOW OPEN at ARTHUR TOOTH & SONS' GALLERY, 5, Haymarket. Admission One Shilling.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF CARINET PICTURES by ARTISTS of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOLS is NOW OPEN at THOMAS MCLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, Haymarket (next the Theatre). Admission on presentation of address card.

SAVOY HOUSE, -GALLERY OF ENGRAVINGS by the GREAT MASTERS. Also Specimens of Reproductions in Chromo-lithography and Colour Printing, from the Paintings of the English, French, German, and Continental Schools. Catalogues post-iree on application to the Manager, at the Gallery, Savoy House, 115 and 116, Strand, London, W.C.

DORES GREAT WORKS, "ECCE HOMO" ("Full of IEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," and "image in the IEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," and image in the image

ST. JOHN'S WOOD ART SCHOOLS, 7, ELM TREE ROAD, N.W. Drawing from the Life and Antique. Painting from Model and Still Life. Students specially prepared for Royal Academy (seven successful at last Competitions). A Class for Ladies Only has been opened. Apply to A. A. CALDERON, Esq., Principles.

BRIGHTON. - PULLMAN DRAWING-ROOM CAR TRAINS leave Victoria for Brighton every Week-day at 10.0 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and Brighton for Victoria at 9.45 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.; also from Victoria on Sundays at 10.45 a.m., and from Brighton at 8.30 p.m. EVERY SUNDAY—A Cheap First Class Train from Victoria at 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s.

THE GRAND AQUARIUM AT BRIGHTON.—EVERY SATURDAY. Cheap First Class Trains from Victoria at 10.55 and 17.50 a.m., and London Bridge at 9.30 a.m. and 120 noon, calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Fare—1st Class, Half-a-guinea (including admission to the Aquarium and ac koyal Fayilion Picturo Gallery, Palisce, and Grounds), available to return by any Train the same day, except the 5.45 p.m. Pullman Car Train.

(By Order) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

GRAPHIC GALLERY, THE

190, STRAND, LONDON.

TYPES OF FEMALE BEAUTY,

ILLUSTRATED BY THE FOLLOWING ENGLISH AND FRENCH ARTISTS-

P. H. Calderon, R.A., Frank Dicksee, A.R.A., Arthur Hopkins, Sir F. Leighton, P.R.A., G. D. Leslie, R.A., Edwin Long, A.R.A., P. R. Morris, A.R.A., C. E. Perugini, Marcus Stone, A.R.A., George A. Storey, A.R.A., L. Alma-Tadema, R.A., J. J. Tissot.

J. J. Tissot. Jules Goupil (Chevalier of the Legion of Honour); Paul Baudry (Commander of the Legion of Honour, Member of the Institut); Gustave Jacquet (Chevalier of the Legion of Honour); Henri Levy (Chevalier of the Legion of Honour); Pierre Auguste Cot of Honour); Henri Levy (Chevalier of the Legion of Honour).

" DYING TO SAVE THE QUEEN'S COLOURS," THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANTS MELVILLE AND COGHILL, 24TH REGT.,

AN EPISODE IN THE BATTLE OF INSANDLWHANA,

Painted by Mr. C. E. FRIPP, Special Artist to "The Graphic" during the whole of the Zulu Campaign.

There is also Exhibited a choice selection of ORIGINAL WATER-COLOUR and BLACK and WHITE DRAWINGS, the Engravings from which have from time to time appeared in "The Graphic."

THE GALLERY IS OPEN DAILY FROM TEN TILL SIX. Admission, including Illustrated Catalogue, ONE SHILLING.

NOTICE.—THE GRAPHIC this week consists of Two WHOLE SHEETS, one of which is devoted to an ILLUS-TRATED BIOGRAPHY of the late EARL OF BEACONSFIELD, K.G.—The continuation of Messrs, Besant and Rice's Story, "THE CHAPLAIN OF THE FLEET," is unavoidably postponed till next week.



THE REVOLT IN THE TRANSVAAL

OUR artist's sketches of "Crossing a River" and the "Kitchen of Officers' Mess, 83rd Regiment," are explained by their titles. Of the others Mr. Fripp writes:—"The Biggarsberg is a range running at right angles to the Drakensberg range of mountains, which at the time I am writing is the stronghold of the Boers. As the Boers were considered likely to attempt to intercept the reinforcements under General Wood while crossing the Biggarsberg, a detectment of the orth was ordered, as soon as it arrived, to

the Boers were considered likely to attempt to intercept the reinforcements under General Wood while crossing the Biggarsberg, a detachment of the 97th was ordered, as soon as it arrived, to occupy a point commanding the roads. The mountain is 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, and is especially characteristic of the South African table land formation, extending over three miles in one direction. The troops under the command of Captain Cross threw up a fort, almost as complete as it appears in my sketch, in one day, it being expected that an attack was imminent.

"In my sketch of the Encampment of the 83rd Regiment on Sunday's River, the scene represents the men occupied in drying and cleaning clothes, &c., after some days' wet marching. For several days previously the rain had come down in torrents, day and night, with little intermission, and when the sun shone out again advantage was taken of it to dry the soaking wet accourtements and clean the dirty rifles. At this time of the year the rainy season of Natal is supposed to cease. Unfortunately for the troops, however, the rain-fall is much greater than has been known for years. The 83rd Regiment arrived at Natal from India, its strength being now 545 rank and file, although before having received orders to return to England (previous to being countermanded to the Transvaal) it mustered 900 bayonets. The difference is accounted for by the practice of putting regiments about to return home on as by the practice of putting regiments about to return home on as small a strength as possible by drafting men to others."

THE RECENT TRIAL OF NIHILISTS AT ST. PETERSBURG

THE trial of the six Nihilists for the assassination of the late Czar St. Petersburg began on the 9th inst., and lasted three days. The at St. Petersburg began on the 9th inst., and lasted three days. The Judges, who were presided over by Senator Fuchs, held their sittings in the Circuit Court of the Litejnaja Prospect. Both the inside and the outside of the building were carefully guarded by police, who prevented all persons except those furnished with special passes from entering. At each end of the dock also stood two gendarmes with drawn swords, and in front of the prisoners sat their counsel. The Procuror or Crown Advocate sat at the end of the judicial bench, and on a table in the centre of the room were the mute evidences of the prisoners' guilt in the form of bombs, bottles of explosive liquids, &c. Above hung a picture of the late Czar, draped in black hangings. The proceedings were exceedingly simple. First the indictment was read, and to this each prisoner in turn replied by a long speech in no way repudiating his or her complicity in the Revolutionary movement, although some denied being concerned in the actual assassination of the Czar. The prisoners were six in number: Risakoff, the man who threw the first bomb (Elnikoff, who threw the second, died from the effects of the explosion); Sophie Perofskaja, the well-known female conspirator, who gave the signal by waving a handkerchief on the opposite side of the canal; Jelaboff, the organiser of the attempt, and an agent in the third degree of the Revolutionary Executive Committee; Kibaichich, who appears to have prepared the explosive liquids; Hessy Helfman, a Jewess, who was arrested in the Nihilist laboratory in Telejewskaja Street a day or two after the attempt, and Gabriel Michailoff, who was arrested while entering one of the Nihilists' resorts which had been discovered and occupied by the police. After the prisoners had made their speeches, witnesses were examined, having been previously sworn by ministers of their own persuasion. These pastors ranged from a Moslem mollah to a Dominican monk, and contributed a picturesque air to the scene. Then the Procuror, M. Mouravieff, comm at St. Petersburg began on the 9th inst., and lasted three days. The Judges, who were presided over by Senator Fuchs, held their sittings the occasion for a political denunciation of the Revolutionists the occasion for a political denunciation of the Revolutionists and the countries which sheltered them, and going minutely into the character and career of the various prisoners. Of these Sophie Perofskaja alone belonged to the class of nobles. She seems, however, very early to have had a will of her own, as she fled from her home at the age of fifteen, and is stated ever since to have lived on her own resources, taking, of late years, considerable part in the Nihilists' plots. She, indeed, it was who gave the signal for the explosion on the Moscow line when one of the Imperial trains was wrecked. Her grandfather was a Minister of State, and her father wrecked. Her grandfather was a Minister of State, and her father had been governor of St. Petersburg. She had for some time been the companion of Jelaboff, who is said to have been the type of a Revolutionary leader, and one of the most important members of the party. Risakoff, who had been a pupil of the School of Mines and Kibaichich once a member of the formatter were and Kibaichich, once a member of the Academy of Engineers, were portrayed as simple instruments in Jelaboff's hands, and also Michailoff, who was a poor, uneducated peasant. To the Procuror replied either the prisoners replied either the prisoners or their counsel, as the former thought proper, and Jelaboff made another oration in favour of his Socialistic opinions. Finally, the judges retired and brought in a

verdict of guilty. Sentence of death was pronounced upon them on the 11th inst, and on Good Friday the six prisoners were hanged in the presence of some hundred thousand spectators.

CLOSING THE GATES OF ST. PETERSBURG

ONE of the precautionary measures which were taken by the Governor of St. Petersburg before the newly-formed Town Council was elected was the erection of barriers in various portions of the city. At every barrier are stationed officers entrusted with the special duty of seeing that no one enters the town without proper authorisation. Between the barriers patrol bodies of Cossacks, who send all those persons who wish to enter the town to the above-mentioned officers.

MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL FAMILY VISITING WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL

THIS illustration depicts a visit paid by some members of the Imperial Family of Russia to the soldiers who were wounded by the explosion of the bombs which killed the late Czar. The various Grand Dukes and many of the Russian nobility visited the hospital ward at St. Petersburg, where these unfortunate victims to Nihilist vengeance were lying, and brought them sacred images to soothe their minds, and money, grapes, and other fruits, to make their bodily existence as comfortable as possible.

THE EARTHQUAKE AT SCIO: RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS

As soon as news of the terrible catastrophe in the island of Scio reached Malta, the authorities at once determined to do all that was possible to succour the thousands of sufferers, many of whom, besides being made houseless, had been severely injured by the falling buildings, beneath the débris of which so many of their ill-fated fellow-countrymen were buried. During the night of the 6th inst. the crew of H.M.S. Thunderer were busily engaged in shipping tents, tent-poles, biscuits, and other provisions, with medical stores and surgical appliances. A number of doctors were also taken on board, and long before daybreak the Thunderer steamed out of Malta and long before daybreak the *Thunderer* steamed out of Malta harbour on her mission of charity. H.M.S. *Bittern* and *Anteloge* narbour on her mission of charity. 11.M.S. Bittern and Ameloga-were also despatched from Constantinople to assist in relieving the distress. According to the latest returns the casualties from the earthquake in all parts of the island are 8,000 killed and 10,000 injured. After the renewed shock last week the ground sank to the extent of one mètre. The island is thought to be sinking, and the inhabitants are flocking in crowds to the mainland.—Our engravings are from sketches by Lieutenant J. W. Haynes, of H.M.S.

A COURSE OF MUSKETRY INSTRUCTION AT HYTHE

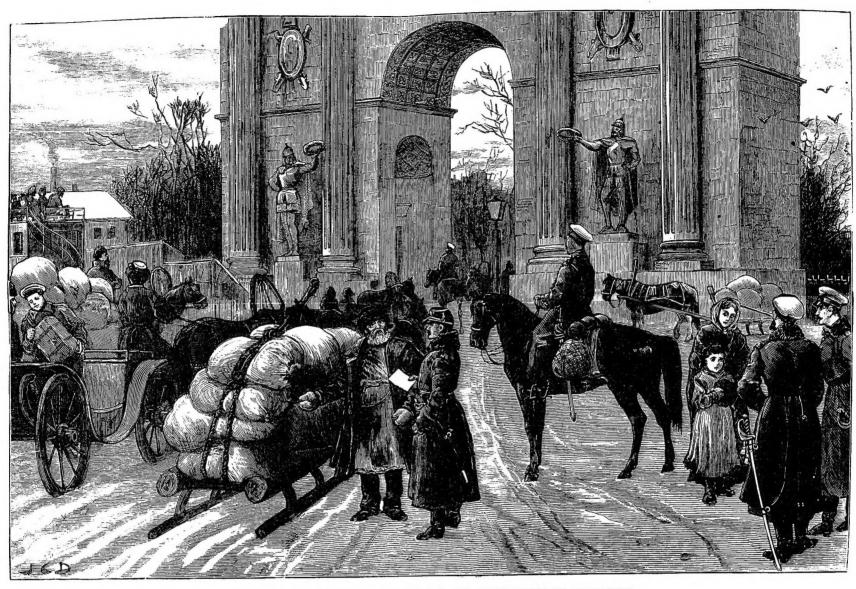
In these sketches we have a humorous view of student-life at the well-known School of Musketry at Hythe. The "course" lasts two months, and on the first day the distribution of arms for use during that period is effected. Short carbines are served out to the officers of mounted regiments, and long Martini-Henry rifles to those in the infantry branch of the service, and the effect is somewhat ludicrous when the cavalry officer happens to be abnormally tall, and the infantry officer rather under than over the middle height. Our next sketch shows the difficulty experienced by a student who is not quite so young or so lissome as he used to be, and who conse-Our next sketch shows the difficulty experienced by a student who is not quite so young or so lissome as he used to be, and who consequently fails to "get well down on the heel." He, however, manages to secure the requisite degree of steadiness by using a couple of "Red Books" in the manner shown in the following sketch. In "Volley Firing" the anxiety of the instructors that the whole squad shall fire at precisely the same moment is indicated by their gestures and simultaneous commands and entreaties. The "Pet Shot" is always the subject of absorbing interest and obsequious attention. A blanket is held up to protect him from the wind. One Shot" is always the subject of absorbing interest and obsequious attention. A blanket is held up to protect him from the wind. One instructor carefully directs his position, and another scans the target through a field-glass to note the exact effect of his shot, whilst the remainder of the squad await the result with breathless interest and admiration. A hard morning's work in the open air sharpens the appetite amazingly, but for all that the late arrivals at the messroom cannot help feeling some degree of disappointment as they see the last of the fragrant pie rapidly disappearing, and nothing but cold meat left to fall back upon. Their only consolation must be that the heavy feeders alone will probably suffer from the "Student's Nightmare," depicted in the next sketch. On his breast sits a strange monster, half cartridge, half instructor, armed with the model rilles from the lecture-room, with wires attached to show the lines of fire and trajectory, which the spectre seems to be driving into his brain, whilst on his cheek he feels the hot sulphurous breath of a creeping monster in the shape of a rifle; and the target, endowed with life and boxing gloves, dares him to hit it now. At last comes the final examination, and the solemn moment when the confidential report is sealed up, each student being troubled with misgivings as to the verdict so far as it concerns himself, a condition of mind which, however, quickly gives place to one of exuberant joy, as he reflects that his course is done, and that he need no longer pore over the musketry regulations.—Our engravings are from sketches by Lieutenant J. E. Robinson, 30th Regiment.

THE NATIONAL FISHERIES' EXHIBITION AT

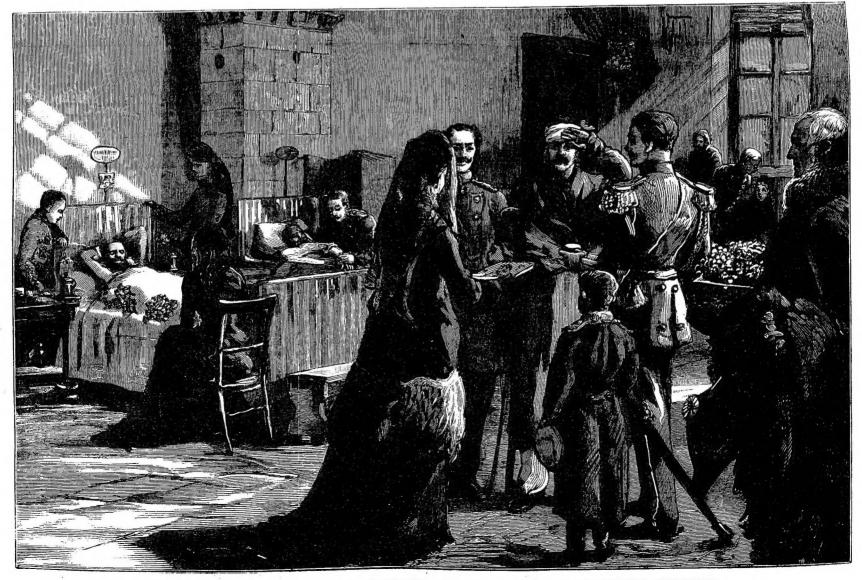
THE NATIONAL FISHERIES' EXHIBITION AT NORWICH

This exhibition, which was opened on Monday by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, is of a very varied and interesting character. It is located in the Volunteer Drill Hall, a spacious building to which is attached a temporary annexe. Amongst the exhibits are models of all kinds of fishing-tackle and gear as used on inland streams and lakes kinds of fishing-tackle and gear as used on inland streams and lakes as well as in sea-fisheries; appliances for pisciculture; specimens of living fish; cases of preserved fish, dried, salted, smoked, and tinned fish; aquatic flora and fauna, and birds which prey upon fish; fishing vessels and boats, life-boats and life-saving apparatus of all kinds; architectural plans for fish-markets, and fish-curing establishments; and a host of other things connected with the great fishing industry of this country. The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess and Prince Leopold, arrived from Sandringham about noon, and were met at Thorpe station by the Mayor, Sheriff, and Town Clerk, the 1st Norfolk Artillery Volunteers forming a guard of honour. Escorted by a detachment of Hussars, the Royal party drove through the crowded and decorated streets to the Drill Hall, where, after receiving and replying to an address from the through the crowded and decorated streets to the Drill IIall, where, after receiving and replying to an address from the Committee, and making the circuit of the exhibition, the Prince declared it open to the public. The Royal party then drove to St. Andrew's Hall, a fine old building adorned with many oil paintings, and further decorated for the occasion with banners, where a luncheon had been provided by the Mayor. The Prince of Wales, responding to the toast of his health, expressed the record pleasure which the Princess and himself had felt in comming the real pleasure which the Princess and himself had felt in opening the Exhibition—the first of its kind in England, which he hoped would Exhibition—the rist of its kind in England, which he hoped would foster in the public mind a wider sympathy in the well-being of our brave and industrious fishermen. Referring to the danger to which fishermen were always exposed in bad weather, he suggested the formation of a National Fishermen's Aid Society, with branches in every part of the Queen's dominions, to succour those who were in need, and to help to assuage the crief and misery of the mileure and and to help to assuage the grief and misery of the widows and orphans of fishermen. After luncheon the koyal visitors returned by special train to Sanndringham. In the evening some of the streets of Norwich were illuminated, and the electric light blazed from the Drill Hall. As at present arranged, the Exhibition is to remain open a fortnight, but the term may possibly be prolonged.

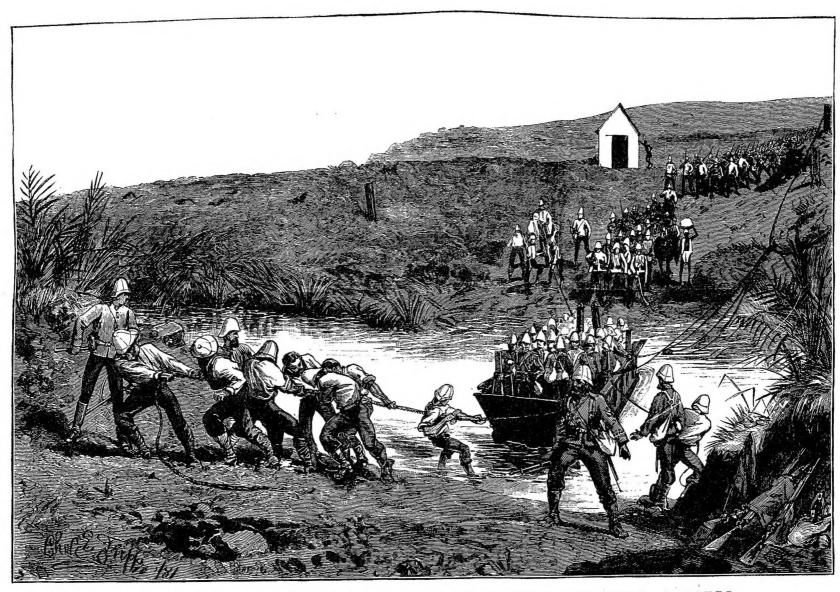
APRIL 23, 1881



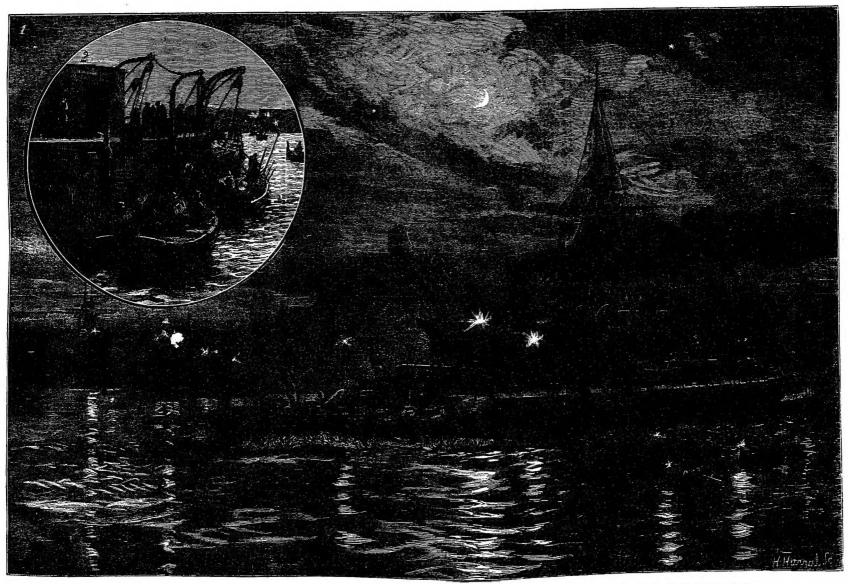
CLOSING OF THE GATES OF ST. PETERSBURG-THE HORSE GUARDS ON POLICE DUTY



MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL FAMILY VISITING THE SOLDIERS WHO WERE WOUNDED WHEN THE LATE CZAR WAS ASSASSINATED



THE REVOLT IN THE TRANSVAAL-BRITISH TROOPS CROSSING A RIVER FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. C. E. FRIPP



I. H.M.S. "Thunderer" Leaving the Harbour at Malta for Scio.—2. H.M.S. "Thunderer" Embarking Stores at Malta for the Relief of the Sufferers.

THE RECENT EARTHQUAKES AT SCIO



A memoir and account THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD.—A memoir and account of the last illness of the late Lord Beaconsfield will be found in our Extra Supplement. His death has been the subject of universal regret, not only in this country but throughout the civilised world. Mr. Gladstone, his great political rival, was the first to express a desire that his remains should have the honour of a national funeral, and interment in Westminster Abbey; but it appears that his will directs that he should be buried at Hughenden beside his wife, and his funeral conducted with the same simplicity as here. His body THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD. his funeral conducted with the same simplicity as hers. His body is now lying in solitary state in the room in which he died, and many offerings of flowers and immortelles have been left in Curzon Street his manufactured for the same simple. Street by mourning friends.

IRELAND. The Land Bill has been the subject of much speech-making and letter-writing this week, but as we have not space for a tithe of the criticism it has evoked, we must content space for a tithe of the criticism it has evoked, we must content curselves by saying that while those on the landlord side point out what they consider to be unjust and unpolitic violations of the rights of property, the extremists on the other hand condemn it as useless, and even mischievous, being likely to lead to universal and eternal litigation; and the more moderate party, amongst whom may be mentioned Mr. Shaw and Mr. Russell, think it good in substance, though susceptible of improvement. Mr. Parnell himself admits that it is good in principle, and an advance on former substance, though susceptible of improvement. Mr. Parnell himself admits that it is good in principle, and an advance on former legislation. He, however, objects to the "mockery of a one-sided Court" being offered to the tenants, and fears that "the Government have some gigantic scheme of emigration in view." The report of the Land League Committee prepared for submission to the Conference criticises the Bill in great detail, and declares that if they admit the principle of landlord compensation, they do so not because they acknowledge the landlords right, but because they are willing to accept a peaceful solution of the question. To-day are willing to accept a peaceful solution of the question. To-day they are prepared to make concessions, to-morrow they may insist on rigid justice.—Five fresh arrests under the Coercion Act have been made, three of the offenders being traversers in the recent State Trials. The number of Land League prisoners now in Kilmainham Gaol is stated to be forty.

THE HOLIDAYS.——In the North of England bleak winds, accompanied by rain and sleet, greatly marred the pleasure of holiday makers, but the southern half of the country was blessed with makers, but the southern half of the country was blessed with warm air and brilliant sunshine, and large numbers of excursionists visited the various places of resort in and around London—the New Natural History Museum at South Kensington having its full proportion of visitors. The railways were very busy, especially those running to the southern and south-eastern coast. Brighton was, of course, crowded with visitors, attracted by the Volunteer Review and sham fight, which, in spite of the dense clouds of dust which prevailed during the whole of the manguages. prevailed during the whole of the manœuvres, was a complete success as a holiday spectacle, if not as a military achievement. Many of the as a nonnay speciacie, it not as a military achievement. Many of the Volunteers arrived in the town on the Saturday, and the church parade, under the Dome of the Pavilion on Sunday, was attended by a crowded congregation.—At Liverpool some 3,000 Volunteers took part in a review on Aintree Racecourse; and at Sheerness the Royal Artillery Volunteers worked hard during the holiday.

GENERAL SIR F. ROBERTS and a number of other officers from South Africa arrived at Plymouth on Wednesday in the Union Company's troopship *Trojan*.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF ELEMENTARY TEACHERS has this

week held its Twelfth Annual Conference at Hawkstone Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, about 300 teachers attending as delegates from different parts of the country. The opening address on Monday was delivered by the new president, Mr. J. R. Langler, of Westminster, who said that though the professional and social standing of the teachers had been much improved, there was still room for reform and advancement. On Tuesday the members of the Conference attended a dinner and soirée at the Bridge House Hotel, and on Wednesday they were received at the Mansion House by the Lord

A FATAL COLLISION took place on Thursday, last week near the Farne Islands, between the steamers Andalusia and James Harris. The former vessel sank almost immediately, and only four men were saved, the remaining twelve of the crew and one passenger being drowned.

THE TOWER OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CHESTER, an ancient he lower of St. John's Church, Chester, an ancient building, which has for some years shown symptoms of decay, is now a heap of ruins. A large crack, extending from top to bottom, had widened visibly during the winter, and on Friday last half of the tower suddenly fell, bringing with it five of the eight bells. Another portion fell on Tuesday, and the rest cannot long remain standing. Fortunately no one was injured, and the body of the church has not suffered. An effort is to be made to raise a fund for the re-creetion of the tower. the re-erection of the tower.

OBITUARY .--Among the deaths recorded this week is that of OBTUARY.—Among the deaths recorded this week is that of Dr. Hardwicke, the Coroner for Central Middlesex, on Friday last, and Mr. Serjeant Heron, Q.C., one of the leading counsel in the recent State Trials at Dublin, on the same day. Both resulted from attacks of apoplexy, Dr. Hardwicke being taken ill while engaged in his official duties, and Serjeant Heron whilst salmon-fishing near Galway.



Old-fashioned Turfites can hardly be congratulated THE TURF. on having eschewed Lincoln and Liverpool, and the various early spring semi-suburban meetings, and deferred the opening of the Newmarket, which has been celebrated in weather in which it would have been a cruelty to turn out the traditional dog on the famous Heath. The bitter east wind blew across it untempered by the fertile plains of East Anglia, fresh from the North Sea, and nothing in the way of ulsters or wrappers could withstand its nothing in the way of ulsters or wrappers could withstand its penetrating influence. Still Newmarket always has attractions in the way of watching the almost countless numbers of thoroughthe way of watching the almost countless numbers of thorough-breds there in training, and in hearing racing gossip. As to the racing itself, as is usual at the Craven Meeting, there was little or nothing of interest, and even the Biennial on the opening day was shorn of its almost traditional surprise by Tunis, the favourite, winning in a field of seven. After his victory Mr. Rothschild's colt was backed at 20 to 1 for the Derby, and he is evidently a very useful animal. It was as great a pleasure as it was a surprise to see Mr. Saville win a couple of races, the Visitors' Plate with long bottled-up Lincolnshire, who beat a field of nineteen, and the Double Trial Plate with Whitechapel, who disposed of a dozen other juveniles. Sutler at last won a race, securing for Sir G. Chetwynd the Bretby Plate, and Sir Marmaduke managed to and the Swaffham Stakes. Lucetta, the last Cambridgeshire

was made favourite for the Newmarket Handicap, but winner, was made favourite for the Newmarket Handicap, but failed to make any show, the race being won by Count Festetics' Berzeneze, who was next in demand. Mistake, who ran second for the Lincoln Handicap, was second here, and Schoolboy, who turned the tables on Commandant, his recent conqueror at Northampton, was third.—During the week there have been close on forty race meetings, mostly of a holiday character, interesting enough to the class of spectators present, but of slight importance from a pure racing point of view.—As the time of slight importance from a pure racing point of view.—As the time for the decision of the City and Suburban draws near, Prestonpans becomes a warmer favourite, being now backed at 7 to 1. We may, however, have more than one surprise in store before the day, and Mr. Crawfurd's lot are still involved in some mystery. Altogether, the race seems of an arrange sharester. the race seems of an unusually open character.

CRICKET.—It makes one almost shudder to talk of cricket in a keen east wind, however bright the sun may be, but in various directions the trials of "the Colts" have begun. At Leicester fifteen Town Colts beat fifteen of the County by one wicket, but it can hardly be said that any strating play was exhibited. fifteen Town Colts beat fifteen of the County by one wicket, but it can hardly be said that any startling play was exhibited.—The match between the County and twenty-two Derbyshire Colts resulted in a draw somewhat in favour of the latter; and at Nottingham there was a similar result, though the Eleven was evidently in good form.—The season promises very favourably, the benefit matches of importance and first-class fixtures generally being unusually numerous. New grounds will be opened at Liverpool and Oxford; and there are an unusual number of young players of great promise, amateur and professional. It is likely, however, that the season will be marked with the partial retirement of W. G. Grace, Lord Harris, Richard Daft, and some others of foremost rank in the game. foremost rank in the game.

AQUATICS.—On Tuesday last the good people of Southampton saw on their own water an excellently well-contested sculling match of 3½ miles between Trickett, the Australian ex-Champion of the World, and W. Kirby, a South-coast celebrity. Trickett was much and unfairly interfered with, and his opponent led him several times in the first three miles, but in smoother water towards the finish the Australian won easily by twenty-five lengths. We are glad to record Trickett's success, and hope that the long preliminary sparring between him and Boyd will result in a match being made.

BICYCLING.—At Leicester a 100 miles' Championship Race was

BICYCLING.—At Leicester a 100 miles' Championship Race was won by G. W. Waller, of Newcastle, who beat Higham of Nottingham by five yards, and six others. His time was 6 h. 43 min.

AMATEUR BOXING.—At the first meeting of the Amateur Boxing Association at St. James's Hall, some fine sparring was witnessed. The honours were fairly divided between the metropolis and the provinces, the feather-weights being won by T. Hill, Birmingham, the light-weights by H. M. Hobday, London, the middle-weights by T. P. Bellhouse, Manchester, and the heavy weights by B. Freet Smith London. weights by R. Frost Smith, London.

RACQUETS.—The four-handed game between Oxford and Cambridge resulted in an easy victory for the latter, but in the single-handed match the Dark Blue representative was victorious.

PEDESTRIANISM.—It seems that E. P. Weston has not retired from the path, but has challenged Rowell (the holder) for the Long Distance Championship of the World. The contest will come off in this country in June next.



THE revival of The Belle's Stratagem at the Lyceum Theatre is avowedly only a provisional arrangement, for the performance must perforce be suspended on Monday week, when Mr. Booth, Mr. Irving, and Miss Ellen Terry are to appear in the first of a series of special representations, commencing with the play of Othello. Nevertheless, Mrs. Cowley's old comedy—it is now in the hundredth year of its existence—has been put upon the stage with all the care and completeness which distinguish the production of plays at this theatre. New scenery has been painted for it by Messrs. Hawes-Craven, and Cuthbert, comprising several interiors, very picturesquely reproducing the half-wainscotted rooms of the period, which have been furnished with a like regard to historical accuracy, as well as to that general harmonious effect, without which mere correctness is little to be prized. Besides this the costumes are carefully studied, and are very bright and pleasing to the eye, and it has been contrived to show these pictorial elements to the best advantage by introducing into a ball-room scene a minuet danced by almost the entire dramatis persona. The comedy has been much reduced, a process that enables it to be performed in conjunction with Mr. Tennyson's poetical play of The Cup, which occupies the first place in the programme of the evening's entertainment, but this does not unfortunately conduce to clearness of story or coherence between the scenes which remain. This piece—the best work of a clever lady, who did not begin to write plays until she was near middle age—is a very skilful mosaic of well-tried and what are known to actors as "safe" incidents. Certainly the invention it displays is much less noticeable than the skill and tact with which rather slight materials are interwoven. In its present reduced form, however, it becomes still more unsubstantial, little more being left than the scenes between the affianced lovers, Doricourt and THE revival of The Belle's Stratagem at the LYCEUM Theatre is form, however, it becomes still more unsubstantial, little more being form, however, it becomes still more unsubstantial, little more being left than the scenes between the affianced lovers, Doricourt and Letitia Hardy, who are represented by Mr. Irving and Miss Ellen Terry. Doricourt is a fine gentleman of somewhat languid manners; Letitia is a bright, lively, yet sensitive and tender-natured girl. They are, under the terms of a will, to accept each other or forfeit a fortune; but Letitia cannot endure an indifferent husband, and, therefore, determines to arouse some sort of interest by feigning the uncultivated style of a rustic maiden, at once awkward and bold, shy and sharp of tongue. It is the opportunities for these contrasts which have rendered Letitia now for nearly a century a popular part with leading is the opportunities for these contrasts which have rendered Letitia now for nearly a century a popular part with leading actresses, Miss Terry herself being no doubt equally moved by these attractions, for this versatile actress is hardly less attractive in vivacious parts than in those more tender and touching scenes in which she is more often seen. Her Letitia is indeed a charming impersonation—luxuriant in its display of high spirits, yet never exaggerated—while the performance all through is raised in value by the real sweetness of disposition and the honest desire to be loved for her own sake, which, with the perfection of unobtrusive art, this delightful actress is able to suggest. Doricourt is a part in which Mr. Irving has often been seen on the London stage. He played the character in a revival of this comedy at the Lyceum a few years ago. In resuming it now he is doubtless well aware that it is not one of the most successful of his impersonations, though in the scenes of simulated madness it is touched with a whimsical grotesqueness which is entirely the actor's own interpretation, and which lays hold at once of the imagination of the spectators. In grotesqueness which is entirely the actor's own interpretation, and which lays hold at once of the imagination of the spectators. In other respects Mr. Irving's rather eccentric manner and abrupt movements and gestures sit, it must be confessed, somewhat ill upon the elegant and fastidious hero. The cast includes in Miss Sophie Young and Mr. Howe two really valuable accessions to the Lyceum company. Miss Young's Mrs. Rackett is a very pleasing performance, and Mr. Howe's Hardy presents all the finish which that excellent actor always bestows upon his portraits of old gentlemen in the comedies of the past

in the comedies of the past.

At the ST. JAMES'S Theatre the late Lord Lytton's Lady of Lyons has been revived with careful attention to all scenic and oth sories which can give effect to this story of the time of the French Directory, and with a cast which could hardly be more efficient. Mrs. Kendal has often been seen in the character of Pauline, but her performance on Monday evening differs not only in degree but in quality very considerably from her previous impersonations. She performance on Monday evening differs not only in degree but in quality very considerably from her previous impersonations. She has bestowed a more careful study upon every little detail necessary to give what relief is required to the successive moods of the lady whom she exhibits as the trustful, happy fiancie, as the loving wife, as the high-spirited woman full of burning indignation for the wrongs she has suffered, with equal force and truth. Her greatest triumph, however, comes after this tempest and whirlwind of passion have subsided. Her gradual relenting is marked by numberless subtle touches, and her final outburst of despair, when her penitent lover departs to join the French Army, was pathetic to a degree that visibly moved an audience somewhat coldly inclined to the more sentimentalities of the play. Mrs. Kendal's Pauline is on the whole a very fine performance, and is sufficient in itself to give a special interest to this revival. Mr. Kendal's Claude Melnotte is well known for its gallant bearing and for the skill of the actor in subdning the rather high-flown sentiment with which the romantic gaudener's son is provided. Mr. Hare, as Colonel Damas, the rough, good-natured soldier, adds another to that actor's long succession of highly-finished portraits; and the minor characters are played with excellent effect by Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Wenman, Miss Louise Moodie, Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mr. Catheart, and Mr. Denny. The Lady of Lyons is to be played on alternate nights with Mr. Pinero's comedy of The Money Spinner, which will be given as heretofore

Lady of Lyons is to be played on alternate nights with Mr. Pinera's comedy of The Money Spinner, which will be given as heretofore in conjunction with A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing.

The new play, by Mr. H. A. Jones, called His Wife, produced at SADLER'S Wellson Saturday evening, is unfortunately rather wanting in freshness of theme and incidents. It sets forth, as Mr. Wilkie Collins and other writers have done, the hardships which the rather loose marriage laws of Scotland may enable a bad husband to inflict upon a good wife; but the melancholy tone of the story is not relieved by any very genuine humour in the lighter scenes, and a certain air of weakness pervades the play. Nevertheless Micro certain air of weakness pervades the play. Nevertheless Min-Bateman (Mrs. Crowe), in the part of the deeply injured heroine, Margaret Field, awakens sympathy and interest, and there is an incidental part admirably played by Miss Kate Pattison. The cruel husband is represented by Mr. E. H. Brooke, who gives full emphasis to the wicked side of his character, and thus prevents any unnecessary expenditure of sympathy when by his suicide he finally leaves his cruelly-persecuted wife free to marry a worthier admirer. The play is put on the stage with presseventhy care and it met. The play is put on the stage with praiseworthy care, and it met, on

The play is put on the stage with praiseworthy care, and it met, on the whole, with a favourable reception.

At the IMPERIAL Theatre Arkawight's Wife, founded on the well-known anecdote of the model broken by the wife of the famous inventor, has been revived, with Miss Helen Barry in her original

character of the heroine.

A representation by amateurs of the first edition of Hamlet, known the "first quarto," was given at St. George's Hall on Saturday afternoon before a numerous audience. This manifestly piratical edition, which is only of about one half the length of the later and more authoritative version, and is admitted to be grossly corrupt and defective, nevertheless excites great interest among scholars, who are much divided on the question whether it represents a "muddled" version of the full text or only of a "first cast" of the poet's work. Besides this there are, it appears, enthusiasts who regard this "first cast," imperfectly as we possess it, as a "better acting play" than the more familiar Hamlet; and Mr. Furnivall, the learned Scere. tary of the New Shakespeare Society, who delivered a little pre-liminary address on the occasion, more than hinted that he was of liminary address on the occasion, more than hinted that he was of that opinion. It was avowedly to bring these grave questions to a practical test that it was determined to put the play upon the stage according to the first quarto. Practically, however, little was attained in this direction. The performers were amateurs who, with one or two exceptions, were unable to give vigour, consistency, or reality to their performances, and the entertainment was, on the whole, not very encouraging.—Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's new "æsthetic" comic opera, intended to take the place of The Pivates of Pencance at the Opera Comique Theatre, is to be called Patience, which it seems, is the name of its heroine. It will be produced this evening.—Professor Strakosch, who enjoys in Germany and Russia something like the reputation of Mr. Brandram in this country, is about to give a series of readings in London of German versions of Shakespeare's plays. Shakespeare's plays.



No one who has speculated on the future of this earth has ever formed grander anticipations than Mr. Delisle Hay in "Three Hundred Years Hence" (Newman and Co.). Far from holding, with Professor Clifford, that the whole solar system will by and by become cold and lifeless, Mr. Hay assures us that, inasmuch as light and heat are only forms of force, the heat lost from the earth by radiation is constantly being replaced by the sun's light. Whence by radiation is constantly being replaced by the sun's light. Whence the sun recoups himself, he confesses we shall only find out wh n we get to his surface. Our getting thither will be nothing wonderful considering what our posterity will have attained to before the year 2180. When mankind numbers 128,000 millions, one of them living in artistic luxury in the caverns of the interior, when there is a horse submarked to the contraction. interior; when there is a huge submarine population, life below water being as easy for them then as it is now for us in a shut-up room; when a power has been discovered which enables men to travel 140 miles because the surface and enables men to travel 140 miles a power has been discovered which enables men to travel 140 indes beneath the surface, and another which controls the weather in the interest of the "bucolics;" when "aeromotors" are almost the only mode of conveyance, and when observers have actually caught the sound of voices from the inhabitants of other planets, it is but the sound of voices from the inhabitants of other planets, it is but the sound of voices from the inhabitants of other planets, it is but the sound of voices from the charge and the control of the planets. one step to bridge over the abyss and to venus. Of course there are drawbacks. With man so numerous, there is no room for the other mammals; just a few are preserved as curiosities in one of the Pacific islands. Birds are fast disappear. ing; sportsmen have to seek their game in the seaweed forests of the Polar Sea, which is so warmed by the judicious application of volcanic heat that icebergs are almost unknown, while Greenland and Iceland are climbed as in the seawer of the polar to the seawer of th land are clothed, as in the carboniferous age, with tropical vegeta-tion. Moreover, all mankind are of one race, "the Xanthochroic, tion. Moreover, all mankind are of one race, "the Xanthochroic, limited to Teuton and Sclav, even the Celt having too much black in him to survive. The yellow race has been all wiped out at once by the Chicago bullet, its doom having been decreed by "the Parliament of Man," and the negro has disappeared in the same way, other small races dying out or being absorbed; and war between the "States of Humanity" is impossible—nobody cares to fight against Chicago bullets. Britain has long been "extinct as a Power," thanks to the Radicals and the Irish Land League. Her consolation is that the whole world speaks English, and that the veriest Sclavs are thoroughly Anglicised. To old-fashioned folks it will be some comfort that, though "superstition" is got rid of, Cologne Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, and a few more "relics" still survive, transplanted to the metropolis of the world.

Oxford much more than Cambridge has always been a mirror of the age. It is an age of scepticism and also of deep faith; and those who would trace the double current, with the help of one who

can sympathise with the doubt while he gives a reason for the faith, should read "Sermons Preached in a College Chapel" (Macmillan). They are as different from ordinary sermons as Keble Chapel is from an old-fashioned parish church with pews and "three-decker," of course in all sermons there must be some rach generalizing. from an old-tashioned parish church with pews and "three-decker." Of course in all sermons there must be some rash generalisings. Thus, though "trouble makes a man real," it does not always "indurate character, and endow with spiritual insight," nor does it always "invest the man with a mysterious attractiveness for others." But in Mr. Hingworth there is comparatively little of this and "indurate character, and endow with spiritual hisght," always "invest the man with a mysterious attractiveness for others." But in Mr. Illingworth there is comparatively little of this; and, accepting as he does the scientific language of the day, and showing how the old spiritual truths underlie it and alone complete its meaning, he is likely to impress readers whom sermons usually fail to touch. What he says of life as gradually evolved from force, which is the first and simplest phase of the communicated energy of Him who is the Life," is strikingly as well as beautifully put; and hints, moreover, at a sound mode of reconciling science and theology. Again, it is so true that "the trouble of doubt comes because God's truth is infinite, while the forms in which imagination clothes it are finite"; and that, "therefore, the belief of our fathers, expressed as they expressed it, must, by the very fact that it was real to them, have for us a touch of unreality." We heartily recommend the volume, especially to those who fancy that science means materialism.

means materialism.

That "Ned Farmer's Scrap Book" (Bemrose: London and Derby) should have reached a ninth edition will astonish even those who know how publishing by subscription is managed. The publishers think it time to appeal to a wider public; we will not speculate how far that public will answer the appeal. Many of the pieces have been set to music; and several of these, referring to the Crimean War, are patriotic if not poetical.

Hark! hark! where the Lion is roaring.
List, list! 'tis the grow! of the Bear,
must serve as a sample. "The Retired Tradesman" is not bad; and, in general, despite his own weakness for "Little Jim," we like Mr. Farmer better when he is humorous than when he aims at pathos.

The Gold Coast people are not negroes, they are, Dr. C. A. Gordon thinks, allied to the Berbers, the Ashantees having even regular Grecian features, their country may be "for the time in fashion," but it certainly is not a place one would choose to go to. Horses show their good taste by steadily refusing to live there. Things are better than in the old days, when the death-rate among the English troops is paradoxically stated to have been 1,500 in the 1,000.

English troops is paradoxically stated to have been 1,500 in the 1,000. Dr. Gordon gives a good many sanitary hints, among them one: "avoid remaining near newly turned-up soil," which many Indian residents know the value of. He gives us a number of misprints—Argan (for Aryan), orchuses, servii, and preventing (frequenting) a promenade. The Mahomedau propaganda has, he thinks, done harm and not good in Western Africa. He has put a good deal of information into a little book, "Life on the Gold Coast" (Baillière), which has already reached its second thousand.

While writing his series of pigeon articles in the Bazaar, Exchange and Mart, Mr. J. C. Lyell, of Monifieth House, Forfarshire, was brought into communication with many well-known fanciers in Europe and America, and has thereby been enabled to give completeness to "Fancy Pigeons" (Bazaar Office). For pigeon fancying he claims a pretty remote antiquity, and complacently points out that "this branch of the fine arts" is not left to the lower classes; even the Queen imitates the Great Mogul Akbar and the ex-King of Oude in having a collection of choice pigeons. We wonder he should not have noted the droit de colombier of French seigneurs. Pigeons we remember were Mr. Darwin's great allies in his chapters on variation: and Mr. Lyell reminds we that all our wonder he should not have noted the droit de colombier of French seigneurs. Pigeons we remember were Mr. Darwin's great allies in his chapters on variation; and Mr. Lyell reminds us that all our varieties are derived from the wild bluerock, which is regularly tamed in the Western shires of Scotland. No wonder the pigeon should in over 2,000 years have developed many varieties, when in 300 the canary has so changed its type. A new variety, we are told, cropped out at Sevenoaks some twenty-five years ago. On the literature of the subject—ancient and modern, American, Dutch, German, and French—Mr. Lyell is very full. His work is a complete manual for the fancier.

Nord Beaconsfield

IN MEMORIAM

Pass to thy silent resting place, great heart! That lived for England and for England's fame, Scorning a selfish or a narrow aim. The sudden tears from many eyelids start For thee who gloriously hast played thy part, Upholding loyally thy country's name, Untarnish'd by the dragon-breath of Shame, True to the Throne, to Letters, and to Art.

O good right hand! that held the Nation's helm Unflinchingly, through many a raging sea; O granite will! that faction could not whelm. Calm in its conscious strength of mastery ; Wise leader of our ocean-girdled realm, A people's lamentations honour thee.

ADA LOUISE MARTIN

CRAWLING CABS. -The objects and aims of the Society for the Prevention of Street Accidents are undeniably philanthropic and praiseworthy, and all Londoners must feel themselves deeply indebted to them for their earnest endeavours to obtain accurate the circumstances by which they are directly or indirectly brought about. We cannot, however, help thinking that they must have fallen victims to their own excessive zeal when they determined to spend time and money in counting the number of disengaged cabs which are to be found at certain times "crawling" up and down our principal thoroughfares in search of custom. It appears from our principal thoroughtares in search of custom. It appears from their recently issued report that no fewer than four hundred and fifty-six "crawlers" passed along Fleet Street on a particular day within a single hour; in Piccadilly three hundred and eighty-one; by Bow Church, two hundred and ninety; and in Pall Mall, two hundred and ninety-three; and some of these were recognised as passing twice, thrice, and even four times in that space of time. It is obvious that the Society looks upon this state of things as a great evil and as a contributory cause of street accidents, but such It is obvious that the Society looks upon this state of things as a great evil and as a contributory cause of street accidents, but such an inference does not appear to us correct or justifiable, and, even if it were, we confess our inability to suggest an efficient remedy. It has never been found practicable to enforce the old police regualtions against "crawling," for the simple reason that in ninetynine cases out of a hundred it is impossible to distinguish between the drivers of empty vehicles, who are making the best of their way to the nearest cab-rank, and the wilful loiterers in search of chance fares. It must also be remembered that the standing-room afforded by our cab-ranks is not anything like sufficient for the number of cabs for which licenses have been issued, and further that these very "crawlers" are not only a great convenience

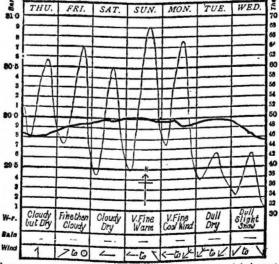
to the public, since few people would care about going or sending to a cab-rank whenever they wanted a vehicle; but that this very "crawling," so far from being the cause of street accidents, is very probably often the means of their prevention, inasmuch as the speed of the general traffic is in some degree moderated by it. On the other hand it may of course be urged that the frequent blocks which occur in some of our busiest thoroughfares are productive of much annoyance, and occasionally of some danger; and that consequently it would be desirable to reduce the total number of vehicles as much as possible. But taking one consideration with another we are inclined to look upon the "crawling" cab more as a convenience than a nuisance.

The Extreme Penalty Of the Law

THE EXTREME PENALTY OF THE LAW .-Association has just published a special paper on the subject of capital punishment, from which it appears, from carefully collected statistics, that murderers have a much smaller chance of escape from capital punishment, from where the extreme penalty collected statistics, that murderers have a much smaller chance of escape from punishment in countries where the extreme penalty of the law stops short of the gallows. It is urged, from the evidence afforded by the figures, that, rather than accept the great responsibility of consigning a fellow-creature to a doom that is irrevocable, judges and juries prefer to avoid verdicts of guilty; and, there being no intermediate course, the manslayer is allowed to go scot free. To many persons this view of the question in support of the abolition of the death penalty will be more cogent than an argument founded on strictly humanitarian principles. With respect to England and Wales, during thirty years, from 1850 to 1879 inclusive, 2,005 persons were committed for trial for wilful murder, of whom 665, or 33 per cent, were convicted, and of these only 372 passed into the hands of the hangman; whereas the proportion of convictions in England for non-capital crimes during the same period was 76 per cent. It may possibly be regarded as another instance of the wrongs inflicted on Ireland by her tyrannic rulers that of the 66 individuals condemned to death for murder during the past twenty years only 30 were let Ireland by her tyrannic rulers that of the 60 individuals condemned to death for murder during the past twenty years only 30 were let off with a secondary punishment. The "redhand" in Scotland received more merciful treatment, since out of 40 death sentences received more merciful treatment, since out of 40 death sentences only 15 were consummated. In other countries, even after juries have found courage to religiously discharge the obligations of their oath, Jack Ketch is cheated of his expectations with amazing frequency. As, for instance, during ten years 806 murderers were sentenced to death, and only 16 were executed. In France, of 198 condemned, 106 escaped. In Spain 291 were sentenced, and 126 executed; while in Germany (North), during a decade, 1,301 were convicted, 484 sentenced to death, and only one executed. In the United States about 2,500 murders per annum are committed, and only 100 were hanged at the instigation of the law; but the chances of escape appear narrowed in view of the fact that about the same only 100 were nanged at the insignation of the law, but the same of escape appear narrowed in view of the fact that about the same number are annually "lynched." In Europe the death penalty is abolished in Holland, Portugal, Roumania, and practically in Belgium, without, it is maintained, any increase in the number of murders in either country.

ROOKS IN DOCTORS' COMMONS.—It should be some evidence of sanitary improvement in the City when rooks of their own free will and choice take up their abode not only within sound of Bow Bells but near there, so that their nests might be shaken by the vibration. The rook ordinarily likes unpolluted air to breathe, vibration. The rook ordinarily likes unpolitifed air to breathe, and usually seeks it distant from the poison-engendering haunts of man. But according to a *Times* correspondent a pair of the tribe have within the present month found a resting-place in one of the ancient plane trees that stand in Dean's Court, Doctor's Commons. Whether their thus locating arises from accident, and in deference to the maxim, "any port in a storm," or whether it is a deliberate design to found a colony, remains to be whether it is a deliberate design to found a colony, telianal to be seen. The writer of the interesting communication suggests that the phenomenon is perhaps accounted for by a peculiarity of the bird in question mentioned by Buffon. That great naturalist says, "Rooks are attracted by everything that glitters," and, as it happens, the adjacent Principal Registry and Marriage License Office has been recently painted and decorated, and shines brightly in the sunlight. It is not improbable, however, that the original inducement was that there were already birds on the boughs of the old plane trees. Time out of mind the sparrows of that portion of the City have congregated in thousands. From morning till evening are these tiny feathered seaveners, abroad picking up a living but as bedting approaches an thousands. From morning till evening are these tiny feathered scavengers abroad picking up a living, but as bedtime approaches they with one accord turn their faces homeward, and—especially at this season of the year—any one who has stood under Doctors' Commons archway of an evening, and heard the four or five thousand sparrow lodgers discussing their family affairs in the shrillest of chirps, and all at one and the same time, can vouch for the possibility of a pair of rooks sailing aloft at any height being attracted by the sound. This much granted, it is not difficult to imagine the possibly belated bits a decay of the sound. sound. This much granted, it is not difficult to imagine the possibly belated birds descending in curiosity to see what the row was about, and, finding how pleasant and convenient the spot was, resolving to remain.

WEATHER CHART FOR THE WEEK APRIL 14 TO APRIL 20 (INCLUSIVE).



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the past week ending Wednesday midnight. The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (appproximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—The weather during the period under review may be divided into three parts. During the first two days a large, but shallow area of low pressure lay over central England, causing light southerly winds over London, with cloudy, but dry and comparatively mild weather. On Thursday (14th inst.) a change took place. The barometer began to fall somewhat over France, while it remained steady over the southern half of these islands thus causing gradients for easterly winds. Light breezes from that quarter consequently set in, the cloud cleared away, and very fine breezes from that quarter consequently set in, the cloud cleared away, and very fine, bright weather prevailed during sunday (17th inst.) and until late on Monday (18th inst.). The thermometer during this second period rose briskly, and maxima of 68 deg. were registered on Sunday and of 65 deg. on Monday (17th inst.) On Monday evening, however, the third and last change occurred. The wind shifted suddenly to the north-eastward, at the same time increasing considerably in force, and from that time up to the close of the period fresh or strong north-easterly winds have prevailed, with cloudy, dull weather, and accompanied this morning (Wednesday) by showers of soft hail. With the shift of wind temperature (eli quickly, a decrease of 15 deg, occurring during the shift of wind temperature (eli quickly, a decrease of 15 deg, occurring during the shift of wind temperature (eli quickly, a decrease of 15 deg, occurring during the shift of wind temperature (eli quickly, a decrease of 15 deg, occurring during the shift of wind temperature was highest (68 deg.) on Sunday (17th inst.); lowest (32 deg.)



THE LATE EARTHQUAKE AT CASAMICCIOLA forms the cheerful subject of a ballet now being rehearsed at a Roman theatre.

A STUDY OF A HEAD BY THE CROWN PRINCESS OF GERMANY is included in the coming Exhibition of the Water Colour Institute.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT IN NEW YORK is now supplied by six fferent systems. all of which are fairly successful. The effect of different systems, all of which are fairly successful. The effect of Broadway thus illumined is described as that "of a great multitude of people turned out to see a ghost, the atmosphere being blue, the shadows long, and everything suggestive of the city of Peter Schlemihl."

"LE FIVE O'CLOCK" is the latest fashionable entertainment in Paris. "After the English fashion," say the hostesses, although the gathering may be at any hour from twelve to seven, and tea is replaced by wine and chocolate, cakes and sandwiches. Generally some author reads his unpublished production, and the "five o'clock" comparis the whole for the comparison that occupies the whole afternoon.

MODERN JAPANESE POTTERY bids fair soon to be as remarkable for size as for beauty of design and detail, Two enormous blue and white porcelain lamp pedestals, twenty-three feet high, the Japan Mail tells us, have been turned out by the potters of Seto in Owasi, a village which in former times was considered the ceramic capital of Japan. The pedestals are intended for a shrine, and are without a single flaw. single flaw.

THE ARTISTIC TASTE OF THE PUBLIC is likely to be tested by a curious innovation in Paris. Some artists propose to organise an exhibition where eight prizes shall be awarded by general suffrage, each visitor receiving a card on which he is to inscribe the pictures he considers worthy of the prize. The plan is not dissimilar to that tried some time since at the Crystal Palace with regard to well-known musical compositions.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' TWO SMALL INDIAN ELEPHANTS have been presented to the Berlin Zoological Gardens, and were despatched last week from the Regent's Park, where they have remained since 1876. They were coaxed into two travelling dens without much difficulty, and were shipped off by the Thames to Hamburg. The Prince has also promised to lend his Indian presents for exhibition at Berlin.

THE SHAKESPEARE ART GALLERY in the memorial buildings at Stratford-upon-Avon now contains an exhibition of loan and presented pictures, as an earnest of the Shakespearian collection which sultimately to be formed. The exhibition will remain open for suffing tely to be formed. The extinction will reliain open for three months, while the usual commemoration of Shakespeare's birthday has commenced with a series of performances in the Memorial Theatre. Talking of the great poet, by the way, King Louis of Portugal has sold the copyright of his Shakespearean translations to a Lisbon publisher for 5,000%.

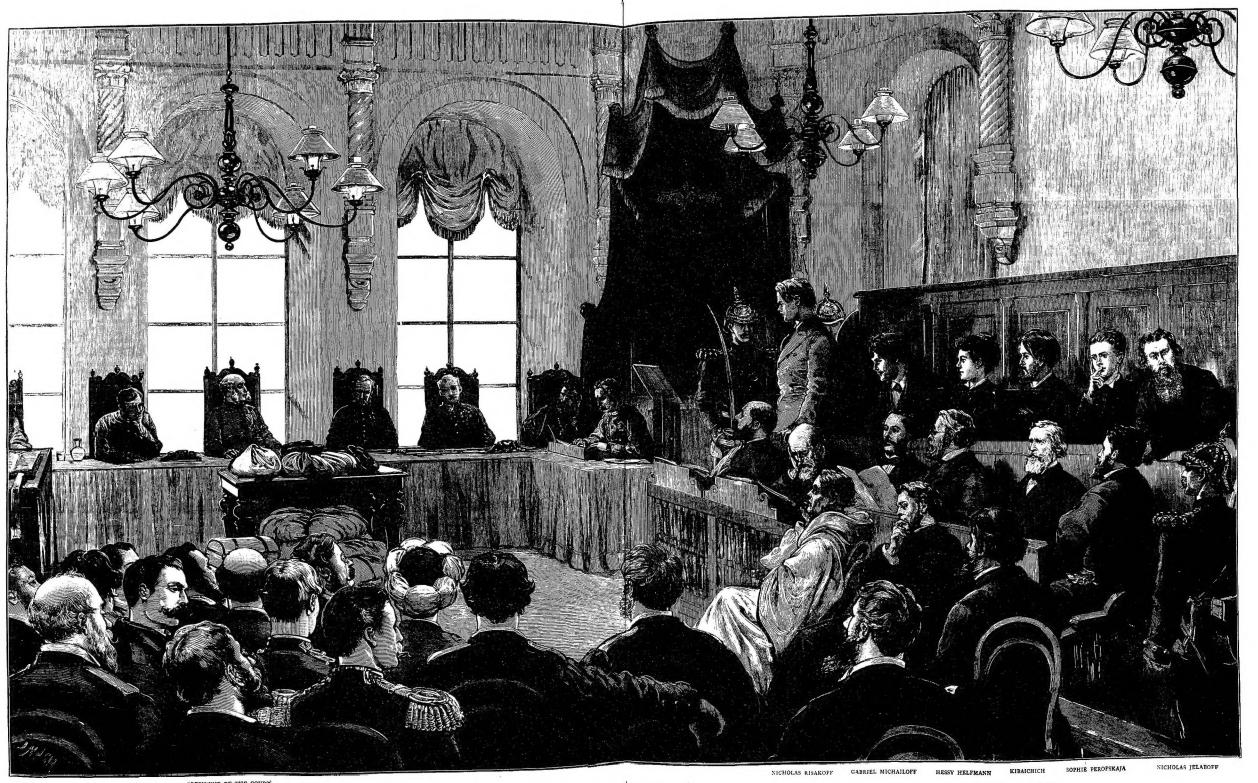
A HISTORICAL TREE has lately been destroyed in Greece—a cypress, described by Pausanias 400 years B.C., and one of the two largest in the Peloponnesus. Some 160 feet high, the tree had a diameter at the base of 10 feet, and a circumference of 25 feet at man's height, and of 240 feet where the branches were most developed. Some careless gipsies camping in its shade set fire to the tree, not a vestige surviving. Now the only giant tree left in the province is a huge plantain near Naupactus, on the Gulf of Lepanto, which is equally large, but some six centuries younger.

AN INSECT HOUSE is to be opened at the Zoological Gardens on Monday, where the career of the moth, beetle, and butterfly from the cocoon to the perfect insect will be illustrated by dried and living specimens. The collection is remarkably good, embracing both foreign and native examples. Naturalists will certainly find plentiful scope for study during the next few weeks, as the British Museum is now showing the late Mr. Gould's magnificent collection of humming birds, which has been acquired by the nation, and the new Natural History Museum at Kensington opened on Monday, when it was visited by over 15,000 persons. At present, however, the arrangements are comparatively incomplete, all the exhibits not having yet been transferred from their old home at Bloomsbury, but the geological, botanical, and mineralogical collections are securely AN INSECT HOUSE is to be opened at the Zoological Gardens on the geological, botanical, and mineralogical collections are securely

LONDON MORTALITY decreased and increased respectively during LONDON MORTALITY decreased and increased respectively during the two last weeks, and 1,532 and 1,636 deaths were registered against 1,547 during the previous seven days, being 233 and 72 below the average, and at the rate of 216 and 23 o per 1,000. There were 72 and 77 from small-pox (the latter exceeding the average by 28), 63 and 62 from measles (21 and 23 above the average), 26 and 41 from whooping-cough (65 and 47 below the average), 19 and 28 from scarlet fever (11 below and 1 above the average), 19 and 20 from scaric lever (11 below and I above the average), 11 and 14 from enteric fever, and 14 from diarrhœa. Deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 359 and 395 (the latter being 14 below the average), of which 250 were attributed to bronchitis and 105 to pneumonia. There were 2,612 and 2,344 births, being 49 and 306 below the average. There were 17 hours of bright sunshine last week, the sun being 95.8 hours above the horizon. above the horizon.

"KHROUMIR" is now the favourite street term of abuse in Paris, "Khroumer" is now the favourite street term of abuse in Paris, where there is a perfect rage for everything African. Old pictures of early Algerian battles, portraits of Arabs, and rough sketches of the colony crowd the shops; while the obnoxious "Khroumir" was to be seen on every side at this week's Gingerbread Fair, being represented in sugar, pipeclay, or gingerbread, and replacing the original Turk, at whose battered features visitors fling as many sticks as they have sous to waste. This fair was no less successful than the annual Ham Fair on the Boulevards, where the shoulevards and as they have sous to waste. This fair was no less successful than the annual Ham Fair on the Boulevards, where the shopkeepers and good housewives, deprived of their American supplies, eagerly bought up quantities of hams and sausages, being happily unconscious that sundry dishonest vendors had been caught by the police offering for sale over two tons of unwholesome meat. Curiously enough, it is the custom to sell old iron and metal rubbish of all kinds at the same time as the hams.

A DAILY BOUQUET OF WHITE FLOWERS is sent by Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria to his fiancle, in accordance with Austrian As the engagement has lasted more than a year, the offering has become somewhat monotonous, and various devices are adopted to vary the gift. Thus, one day the bouquet takes the form adopted to vary the gitt. Inus, one day the bouquet takes the form of a rose-casket enshrining a pair of pearl earrings, another time it is an S in primulas mounted on a lace fan, or a basket made of white lilac with a lining of lilies of the valley. The most original idea, however, is that of floral harness for the Princess's riding horse. Apropos of the coming marriage, the Brussels National relates that when the present Queen crossed the Belgian frontier, in readiness for her wedding, she wore a bonnet trimmed with artificial grapes. Being tired with her reception, she took the bonnet off and laid it on one side, when an officer of the escort, anxious for a souvenir of the day, surreptitiously picked off a grape. A comrade followed suit, the example spread, and soon all the trimming was ripped off, next the strings disappeared, and lastly the straw itself, bit by bit. When the bride looked for her bonnet it had vanished, and she was obliged to wear another, going on her journey with a very dubious opinion of her new subjects' honesty.



NIHILISM IN RUSSIA - TRIAL OF THE SIX PERSONS CONCERNED IN THE MURDER OF THE LATE CZAR



AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.—Turkey has been formally notified of the "supreme decision of Europe" on the Greek Frontier Question by a Collective Note inviting her to comply immediately with the terms of the Powers. Simultaneously, a fresh Note was presented to Greece, impressing upon her that the solution was final, and warning her against a refusal. No time has thus been lost in acting upon the Greek acceptance of the Powers' proposal, notwithstanding its ungracious and ambiguous tone, which indeed has created general dissatisfaction. Foreign opinion strongly condemns the recriminations and demands set forth by Greece, who expresses scant gratitude for the large share of valuable territory so peacefully obtained, but asks for guarantees respecting the transfer of the ceded districts, protests both against the insecurity of the proposed line and the alteration of the Berlin decision, and appeals on behalf of her "children" remaining outside the new frontier. Evidently, however, the reply is framed rather to appease the bitter popular feeling than to express the true sentiments of the Greek Cabinet, who are even said to have assured the Powers to that effect. Public excitement runs very high at Athens, where enthusiastic mass meetings and warlike placards on the walls have vehemently denounced any abatement of the Berlin award. This feeling is strongest amongst the higher class of Greeks; but it is hoped that the agitation may have calmed down by the time the Chamber meets, and that the decision will be ultimately ratified without great opposition. After the details of the cession have been arranged between the Ambassadors and the Porte, an International Commission will settle the technical delimitation. A convention between Greece and Turkey under the Powers' direction will be concluded respecting these arrangements, and further providing for religious liberty, for the safety of Mussulman property in the surrendered districts, and the apportionment of part of the Ottoman debt to Greece. Turkey herself is very anxious

with the new arrangements, and will probably fully engage the forces prepared in the event of a collision with Greece.

Foreign Opinion on the Death of Lord Beaconsfield.—Throughout the Continent the news of Lord Beaconsfield's death has aroused genuine regret. Perhaps the impression is most profound in Germany, where the late Earl was heartily liked, and had become even a greater favourite during the meetings of the Berlin Congress. Prince Bismarck esteemed him highly, and placed his portrait in his private cabinet with that of his sovereign and his wife. Accordingly, the journals speak of Lord Beaconsfield in the marmest terms, the North German Gazette styling him "one of the most eminent of those men who in modern times have devoted themselves to the advancement and welfare of their country." Similar sympathy is expressed in France, with but few exceptions, the French having taken more interest in Lord Beaconsfield than in most foreign statesmen. While, therefore, not awarding unqualified praise to either his political or literary abilities, the Press acknowledge him to be a great loss, and gratefully remember his friendly attitude to their nation at a critical time. "With Beaconsfield dies the policy of the Pitts and Cannings," says one journal, while another declares that now there only remain in Europe improvised and ephemeral Ministers, the stage being abandoned to a single personage, Prince Bismarck. Australa, who has always regretted the fall of the Conservative Government, warmly laments the loss England has experienced, and her obituary notices of the late statesman are almost uniformly laudatory. Opinion is somewhat divided in Russia, where, though in many cases Lord?Beaconsfield's talents are eulogised, his policy and general career are roundly condemned, the Goles declaring that the English people can now breathe more freely, while the Newye Vremya speaks of "the demise of the high priest of ambition."

The Tunisian Question.—France and Tunis continue to interchange protests and amicable assurances, while in no way lessening their preparations for a prolonged campaign. No decided hostilities have yet occurred, save several insignificant tribal skirmishes, and a few shots from the Isle of Tabarca on a Gallic gun-boat, but both the French and Tunisian troops are being steadily pushed to the front. The Bey firmly refuses to co-operate with the French, and has petitioned the Porte for assistance, but Turkey has enough to do at home, and is even reported to secretly favour a French Protectorate, and the succession of the present Bey by his son-in-law, Khaireddin. Although the excitement in Tunis itself has much abated, the country in general continues very agitated, and marabouts are preaching a holy war. Meanwhile the French seem fully aware of the difficulties of the expedition, which, as the Débats points out, will not only be opposed by a most mobile enemy, able to migrate with their homes and property at any moment, but will suffer from the sun, from a perplexing country, and from Moslem fanaticism. As the Khroumirs are likely to be aided by numerous tribes, the French forces are concentrated in formidable masses, and will probably enter the enemy's country in three separate strong columns, numbering altogether some 20,000 men. ITALY seems to have greatly recovered her equanimity on the subject, and the Ministerial crisis has ended by the King requesting his Ministers to retain their portfolios, as several of the opposing parties have agreed to support the Cabinet.

France. — The Easter recess has proved a complete holiday time for politicians, as not a single home subject of importance has disturbed the vacation. Indeed, the only event has been the meeting of the Monetary Conference, which was warmly welcomed by M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire. Only preliminary business was transacted at the first sitting. Most of the Deputies are ruralising in the provinces, where M. Gambetta intends to go in May to visit Cahors; and Paris has been divided between religious ceremonies and theatrical novelties. Good Friday was observed with unusual zeal, as a protest against the Government prosecution of the Clericals, and the churches, with their splendid representations of the Sepulchre, were crammed. Moreover, the usual Freethinking banquets were very poorly attended.—There has been a rain of first representations, of which the most important are M. Coppée's drama, Madame de Maintenon, at the Odéon, successful both as a literary work and as a spectacle; and a lively episode of the gaming table, Monte Carlo, by MM. Belot and Nus, at the Gymnase. A splendid musical and dramatic fite has also been given at the Trocadero, in aid of the sufferers from the Belgian inundations.

RUSSIA.—The late Czar's assassins were duly hanged last week, with the exception of Hessy Helfman, who, being enceinte, is temporarily reprieved. The culprits behaved with perfect composure to the last, although Risakoff fainted when encircled by the noose, but the execution appears to have been a sickening scene. Michailoff's rope broke twice, and the executioners bungled horribly altogether. No sympathy whatever was expressed by the enormous crowd. Justice being satisfied, public attention is now looking for signs of an altered and milder policy, and it is generally hoped that the Czar will grant some reform or amnesty during the coming Easter holidays. Until then nothing will be done, but the Czar has consulted with his Ministers on a proposition of reform due to Count

Melikoff, and confirmed by the late Emperor just before his death. This proposition provides for a Commission de Redaction to discuss State questions, formed of elected representatives of territorial bodies, of towns, and of the nobility, and was approved by the majority of the Ministers. As yet the old regime of political trials continues, for six notable Nihilists will be shortly tried at Moscow, where 140 of the University students, who recently held an illegal meeting, have been expelled, a similar disturbance at St. Petersburg being also severely punished.—Lord Dufferin's departure has caused unfeigned regret.

General Skobeleff is now on his way home from Central Asia, having told his soldiers on taking leave that the expedition, having attained its object, was at an end. Before leaving he received the submission of the chief of the Tekkè Turcomans, with a large number of important followers, while on the previous day 200 chiefs met at Merv to make arrangements for guarding against chance raids on Russian territory in order to avoid hostilities.

GERMANY. — Emperor William has been suffering from a cold, but was well enough to entertain Lord Dufferin. Next week he goes to Wiesbaden, returning to Berlin for the military manœuvres in May. The anti-Jewish petition has at length been presented to Prince Bismarck as a bulky work of twenty-five volumes, with 255,000 signatures. Naturally, the Prince gave no reply, as he has already disavowed all sympathy with the agitation. He has again been occupied with the Hamburg Customs question, and two Hamburg Senators have been at Berlin negotiating the conditions for the town's entry into the Customs Union.

Next Monday Brunswick celebrates the fitieth anniversary of the Duke's accession to the throne, and this event has once more aroused the chronic discussion of the Brunswick succession. The Duke of Cumberland, continuing deaf to the voice of the Prussian charmer as regards Hanover, is thus debarred from this inheritance also, and it is now suggested that the Duke of Brunswick should adopt as his heir Prince Louis, second son of the Grand Duke of Baden.

his heir Prince Louis, second son of the Grand Duke of Baden.

INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN.—Candahar has at last been handed over to the Ameer, and by the end of this week the last English soldiers will have left. Owing to the rain the first instalment of the British troops did not start till the 15th, but the Afghan cavalry at once relieved them at Khokeran, and the Governor entered next day. As, however, the latter is only a bearish youth of nineteen, the chief power appears to be vested in the Deputy Governor. On his entry the Candaharis seemed highly indifferent to the change of rule, though crowds filled the streets, which were also lined with troops. Abdur Rahman has decided finally to attack Herat, and will shortly bring a strong contingent to Candahar, while Ayoob is carefully concentrating his forces. After all, although Candahar has been evacuated, the British will temporarily occupy Chaman, and all the posts between the Khojak Pass and Quetta, and in the Pishin Valley—a decision which has given great satisfaction throughout India. By this arrangement the British could march upon Candahar with great ease.—Colonel Malcolmson, who was court-martialled for alleged misconduct at the battle of Maiwand, has been honourably acquitted. The case for the prosecution completely broke down, and Generals Burrows and Nuttall have further damaged their reputation by this affair—Some few statistics of the Census have been published, showing that the population has increased 5 per cent. in the North-West Provinces since 1872, and 6¾ per cent. in the Punjaubsince 1868.

South Africa.—There is very little stirring either throughout the Transvaal or at Cape Town, where Parliament continues the debate on the vote of censure. It appears probable, however, that the Ministry will be defeated, and that a Dissolution will follow—an event of considerable importance at the present juncture, considering the dissatisfaction prevalent in the Colony. The Transvaal Boers seem less aggressive, and are awaiting the meeting of the Royal Commission, where they will probably be represented by Messrs. Joubert and Jorissen and one other, as yet not decided upon.—In Basutoland prospects are more hopeful, for the chiefs have accepted Sir Hercules Robinson's mediation, and Lerothodi has asked for a day's armistice to consult with Major Griffiths on the peace proposals, and is believed to have promised unconditional submission. There has been a serious conflict at Leribe, in which the British were successful.

UNITED STATES.—President Garfield certainly does not find

the British were successful.

UNITED STATES. — President Garfield certainly does not find his post a bed of roses, for the Senate still refuses to accept the officials he has nominated, and public business is thus at a complete standstill. Amongst other reforms the President is anxious to totally alter the government of Utah, with a view to putting down polygamy, and proposes to form a Commission of Seven to administer the affairs of the territory.—The whole country seems just now fairly prosperous, notwithstanding the severe winter, for the crops, though backward, promise well, and the cattle are in fair condition. Disasters, however, are still occurring from snow and floods, particularly at Fond du Lac in Wisconsin, while the late overflow at Yankton (Dakota) rendered 7,000 persons homeless.

MISCELLANEOUS. — The floods in HUNGARY are sensibly diminishing, owing to recent fine weather, but the danger is not yet past, the dykes being in a very unsafe condition.—Socialists continue to alarm both SPAIN and AUSTRIA, for in Madrid petards are continually being thrown at the churches, while the Vienna police are establishing a new system of surveillance over strangers.—In EGYPT it is reported that King John of Abyssinia is dead.—VICTORIA is still struggling with the reform of her Constitution. A new Reform Bill has been introduced by Mr. Graham Berry, but the Joint Committee to consider it cannot agree, and have broken up.



The Queen returns to Windsor from Osborne within the next few days, to remain some three weeks at the Castle before going to the Highlands. During the first week in May Her Majesty will come to town to hold Drawing Rooms on the 3rd and 5th prox. Meanwhile the Princess Louise has been staying with the Queen for Easter, Prince Leopold having gone to Sandringham. On Good Friday Her Majesty and the Royal Family were present at Divine Service at Osborne, and next day the Queen and the Princesses drove through West Cowes and Newport, while in the evening Her Majesty gave a small dinner party, when the Duke and Duchess of Bedford and Lieut. Le Strange, commander of the Lively, were among the guests. On Sunday morning the Queen, the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, and the Duke of Edinburgh attended Divine Service at Whippingham Church, where the Rev. G. Prothero officiated, while on Wednesday Lord Rowton visited Her Majesty respecting Lord Beaconsfield's funeral. Her Majesty has directed letters of sympathy to be written in her name to the relatives of many of the officers killed in the Transvaal.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are entertaining a large party

The Prince and Princess of Wates are entertaining a large party at Sandringham, Prince Leopold being among their guests. On Good Friday and Sunday the Prince and Princess and their visitors attended Divine Service at St. Mary Magdalene, and on Monday they went to Norwich to open the National Fisheries Exhibition. The Prince will hold a Levée on behalf of the Queen on May 27. The Prince and Princess will spend Ascot week at St. Leonard's,

the residence of Mr. F. S. Barry, and during June the Prince will go to Yarmouth to inspect the Norfolk Artillery Militia. The Duchess of Edinburgh will not leave St. Petersburg until

The Duchess of Edinburgh will not leave St. Petersburg until after the Greek Easter festivities.—The Duke of Connaught attended the Brighton Volunteer Review

King Oscar of Sweden has entirely recovered from his severe chest attack, and will shortly come to Bournemouth with the Queen for a fortnight.—Prince Rudolph of Austria is on his way home from Palestine, and Vienna is busy preparing for his wedding festivities. The Princess Stéphanie and her family will arrive at Salzburg on May 5th, and next day will go to Schönbrunn, the two following days being occupied in official receptions, Court balls, and gala representations. On May 9th the bride-elect makes her triumphal entry into Vienna, starting from the Theresianium, where, according to an old custom, the Princess will make her toilette in the apartment of the Empress Maria Theresa, and ricing in a gilt carriage surmounted by a crown and eagle, and drawn by eight white horses. The marriage ceremony takes place at St. Augustin, on the 10th, and after a grand reception the bridal pair go to Laxenburg for a week's honeymoon, and then visit Pesth before taking up their definitive residence at Prague.



GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SERVICES.—At St. Paul's Cathedral on Good Friday the morning sermon was preached by Canon Fleming, and the service was followed immediately by another, at which the Rev. J. N. Kelly delivered addresses on the Seven Words from the Cross; after each of which a hymn was sung, and a pause of a few minutes was made for silent prayer. At Westminster Abbey Canon Farrar, preaching to a large congregation, advised them to sweep from their souls such blasphemy as the idea that God and the saved would rejoice remorselessly over the agonies of the damned. Canon Wilberforce preached at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall; Dean Stanley at the Chapel Royal, St. James's; and the Rev. A. Williams Momerie, of St. John's College, Cambridge, at the Chapel Royal, Savoy. At St. Alban's, Holborn, Mr. Mackonochie, regardless of the legal decisions against him, officiated at three distinct services; at the City Temple Dr. Parker preached on behalf of the Orphan Working Schools, the children of which were present to the number of about 400. At the Pro-Cathedral, Kensington, the Bishop of Amycla performed the "Mass of the Pre-Sanctified;" and Cardinal Manning preached on the Three Hours' Agony.—The Easter services were everywhere well attended, and in the majority of churches much floral decoration was used. Canon Liddon preached at St. Paul's, Dean Stanley at Westminster Abbey, the Bishop of Ely at St. Matthew's, City Road; Cardinal Manning at St. Mary's, Moorfields; and the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

The Revision of the Bible.—The Dean of Peterborough, presiding last week at the annual meeting of the local branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, said that as a member of the Old Testament Committee he could speak confidently of the unanimity of spirit which had animated, and the perfect harmony which had prevailed among, all the members of both Companies. There had never been the slightest jar, no one had tried to get his own pet ideas inserted, but all had co-operated to bring out the genuine meaning of the text. The alterations had been made with the most scrupulous care, and new light had been thrown upon certain passages. In the New Testament especially they would be surprised to find verses gone or altered in an astonishing way, but he assured them that there was nothing to give a shock to any man's faith; not one single doctrine had been touched, nor one single truth imperilled. Everything valued now would remain just as it was, so that instead of looking on the work with anything like apprehension, he was sure they might all welcome it gladly.

DISESTABLISHMENT. — The Scottish Council of the Liberation Society has issued a draft scheme of disestablishment, by which compensation would be made for all vested and life interests, payable, not to a Church body, as in the Irish Act, but to individuals only; while the existing revenues of the Church, with ecclesiastical lands and buildings of all kinds, would be treated as national property at the disposal of the State. —Speaking at Ruabon the other day, Mr. G. Osborne Morgan said that the days of State protection for religion, like those of State protection for everything else, were numbered, and the Church which was to flourish in the future, be it the Church of England or any of the Nonconforming churches, must flourish by voluntary efforts.

Church of England of any of the retenerating function of Church of England of Exeter Hall, where a "Holiness Council" was held under the presidency of "General" Booth. There were three meetings, morning, afternoon, and evening, each of which was crowded, large numbers of people remaining in the building the whole day. The "army" band was present to aid the singing; there were several banners, and many of the men and boys wore a uniform bearing the letter "S." The services consisted of Revivalist hymns and choruses, prayers, Scriptural readings, and addresses by Mr. and Mrs. Booth, "Mrs. Colonel Pepper," and other speakers. Much excitement was manifested at all the gatherings, the congregation indulging frequently in loud ejaculatory "Amens" and "Hallelujahs," but there was no attempt to disturb the proceedings. It was announced by "General" Booth that the expeditionary force to France, headed by Miss Booth, had been allowed to reopen their mission, owing principally to the intervention of some "converted swells." Collections were made in aid of homes for training young men and women for the work of recruiting for the "Army," which in Great Britain alone has already 185 stations, 395 paid officers, and 6,180 trained speakers.

The Rev. William Morley Punshon, D.D., the eminent Wesleyan minister, died on Thursday last week at his residence on Brixton Hill from an attack of bronchitis, having only returned a few days before from a Continental tour, which he had taken for the renewal of his health. Dr. Punshon, who was only fifty-seven years of age, received his theological education at the Wesleyan Training College at Richmond, Surrey. He subsequently ministered in various parts of the country, and made frequent visits to London, rapidly acquiring fame as an eloquent preacher. In 1878 he went to Canada, where he was five times elected President of the Canadian Conference. He returned to England in 1874, and in the following year was chosen President of the Wesleyan Conference. He was a man of high culture, the author of a volume of poems, and an enthusiastic antiquary and collector of autographs. The funeral took place at Norwood Cemetery on Tuesday last, and was attended by a large number of his co-religionists. A portrait of Dr. Punshon appeared in our issue of August 15, 1874.

THE REMAINS OF THE LATE REV. ROWLAND HILL were last week removed from the vaults in Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars Road, under special authority from the Home Secretary, and re-interred at Christ Church, Westminster Road, the new home of the congregation which was founded by the great preacher. There was a short devotional service by the Rev. Newman Hall, who also delivered an address, and amongst those who attended the fresh obsequies were Messrs. Earl and Watkins, two of the trustees, who were both present at Rowland Hill's first funeral forty-eight years ago.



-Mr. Gye opened the season on ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.-Monday with Verdi's Aida, which the experience of five years has only served to raise higher and higher in the estimation of London amateurs, as the dramatic chef d'œuvre of its prolific composer. That amateurs, as the dramatic chef d'auvere of its prolific composer. That for various reasons, and for one in particular, the house was not so brilliantly attended as is ordinarily the case on a first night at this great establishment may be readily understood. The gloom that spread over the whole of Tuesday was not to be dispersed by the attraction of any operatic entertainment, more particularly in a theatre where rank and fashion are accustomed to meet, converse, and interchange opinions. The opera selected, which notwith-standing its scenic magnificence and continuous stage glitter is after all but a thing of abiding sadness, alike on the part of librettist and composer, was perhaps one best suited to the occasion. It is a well of despond from beginning to end, and only through the characteristic and impressive music of the Bussetese maestro could it have obtained even temporary favour, to say nothing about a fair chance of longevity. even temporary favour, to say nothing about a fair chance of longevity. The performance on Tuesday night derived special interest from the fact that the heroine and hero of the drama were impersonated by fact that the heroine and hero of the drama were impersonated by lyric artists hitherto unknown to our opera-goers, both coming direct from Paris, where, at the new Grand Opéra, they have won and merited consideration. Mdlle. de Reské (sister to the De Reské with whom we have already made acquaintance) is, we understand, of Polish birth, belonging to that section of tripartite Poland which owns the sway of Austria. This lady is a genuine artist. Her voice, being rather "mezzo-soprano" than "soprano" proper, is occasionally somewhat overtaxed by the music which Verdi, always uncompromising, has written for the representative of his Ethiopian Princess; and this was observed in the first aria, as well as in certain other passages; but elsewhere her singing was uniformly excellent, the middle tones being eminently rich and sympathetic. That Mdlle. de Reské looks a somewhat robust Aïda must be admitted; her acting, however, reveals decided intelligence, and That Málle. de Reské looks a somewhat robust Aïda must be admitted; her acting, however, reveals decided intelligence, and she moves on the boards with the easy grace of a practised comedian. In M. Vergnet (a Belgian, if we are not mistaken) we have also a Radames of more or less robust configuration. Nevertheless, he, like his companion, is a true artist, and though his voice may be classed more accurately as a high barytone than as a legitimate tenor, it is of agreeable quality, well trained, well under control, and rarely overstrained. In his acting M. Vergnet may be pronounced conventional—by which is meant that he never oversteps the limits within which he knows himself to be on safe ground. His features admit of but little physiognomical play, and thus just as little of the "impassioned" is exhibited in the several manifestations of strong emotion that belong to the character of Radames. At the same time, whatever M. Vergnet does he does well, in accordance same time, whatever M. Vergnet does he does well, in accordance with his natural means, and on that account alone must always prove more or less acceptable to cultivated audiences. The Amneris of Madame Scalchi, as forcible, and, in its way, as dramatic, as on previous occasions, created the accustomed impression in the striking scene of the last act, where Radames is irrevocably condemned by the priests of Memphis. Signor Graziani having seceded demned by the priests of Memphis. Signor Graziani having seceded from the company was replaced with consummate ability by Signor Cotogni, as Amonasro, father of Aïda; the King and High Priest, Ramfis, being adequately sustained by Signors Scolara and Silvestri. The spectacle, with its bevies of dancers, glowing scenery, and surrounding stage accessories, is as imposing as ever. The performance generally, under the able direction of Signor Bevignani—cordially welcomed on taking his place in the orchestra—was for the west part height effective and extrated for the development. the most part highly effective; and, notwithstanding the drawbacks to which reference has been made, Mr. Gye may be congratulated on a promising "inauguration" of the season.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—A new violinist, Herr Waldemar Meyer, appeared on Saturday, playing indifferently an indifferent concerto in D, by the Belgian composer, Ph. Rüfer, and (pleasant to record) as well as it could easily be played, the familiar adagio from Spohr's D minor concerto. He was much applauded, but should be heared again in concepto, better than the concepto above round. as well as it could easily be played, the familiar adagio from Spohr's D minor concerto. He was much applauded, but should be heard again in something better than the concerto above named. The first piece in the programme was Liszt's "Symphonic Poem," in illustration of Schiller's Die Ideale (12th and last of the series of pieces entitled Symphonische-Dichtungen), of which we need only say that Mr. Manns and his orchestra, backed by an extraordinary rhapsody inserted in the programme under the signature of "Fr. Niecks," did their utmost to render it interesting, while barely succeeding in making it intelligible—although according to certain of the "superfine" school, Liszt is the legitimate successor to Beethoven. It was unfortunate for such enthusiasts, though fortunate for the audience, that a magnificent performance of Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony" should come at the end of the concert to clear the brains of those who, at the beginning, may have been somewhat fuddled by the very queer analysis of "Fr. Niecks," and thus dispel the illusion. If Beethoven could only have been spared to hear the sort of "music" said to be the natural off-shoot of his immortal "No. 9," the "genial madman," to whom Wagner likens him, towards the close of his career, would in all probability ("following out the whimsey," as the late Mr. Chorley, a bitter opponent of what is ironically termed "the advanced school," used to say), have proved a dangerous and aggressive lunatic. The vocalist at this concert was Madame Lemmens-Sherrington who im Handle? "Helly beds." "And "Seath lead"." a bitter opponent of what is ironically termed "the advanced school," used to say), have proved a dangerous and aggressive lunatic. The vocalist at this concert was Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, who, in Handel's "Holy, holy," and "Sweet bird," from the same composer's Allegro ed il Penseroso (admirably accompanied on the flute obbligato by Mr. Wells), showed herselt the still perfect mistress of her art, for which she has always been unanimously recognised.—At the concert of to-day, the last of the present series, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony is to be given, and the much-talked-of pianist, Madame Sophie Menter, will make her dibit in Li t's E flat concerto. debut in Li t's E flat concerto.

THE ADVANCED SCHOOL IN PARIS (Correspondence) .recent concert directed by M. Colonne, at the Châtelet, an overdose of what is playfully styled "Musique de l'Avenir" seems to have irritated the Parisian audience, who gave expression to their sentiments in a manner not to be misunderstood. Among the pieces which excited the strongest marks of disapproval were the "Ride of the Weller" which excited the strongest marks of disapproval were the "Ride of the Walkyries," by Wagner; and, strange to add, the Symphonic Finlastique of Hector Berlioz, which was heard with every sign of impatience. When it is added that the programme also included a septuor by M. Saint Saëns and a suite by M. Widor, both active promulgators of the Wagnerian doctrines in France, the ill-humour of the easily-excitable Parisians may in some degree be accounted for At the following concept the signs of opposition were even for. At the following concert the signs of opposition were even more significant. The introduction and *finale* from *Tristan und Isolde*, which rabid disciples of Wagner look upon as the capital work of our great regenerator, were by no means to the taste of the already amply-fed Parisians; and, in consequence, all the rest of the programme suffered, more or less, from listless indifference or further signs of inquietude.

CARNARYON CASTLE, which has suffered considerably from tle effects of time and weather, is being most carefully restored. One of the turrets is being heightened, and the walls have been strengthened, while none of the renovations could offend the most scrupulous antiquary.

FINE ART IN WHITECHAPEL.—A very bright and interesting exhibition of pictures, pottery, textile fabrics, embroidery, and other objects of decorative art, was opened on Thursday last week by the Earl of Rosebery, in the School Rooms attached to St. Jude's Vicarage, Commercial Street, Whitechapel. The various collections have been brought together and tastefully arranged by the Vicar, Mr. S. A. Barnett, assisted by an energetic committee. Nicarage, Commercial Street, With Chaper. The various collections have been brought together and tastefully arranged by the Vicar, Mr. S. A. Barnett, assisted by an energetic committee. There are over 200 paintings, including many striking and attractive works in both oil and water-colours by Sir F. Leighton, Mr. Herkomer, Mr. Watts, and Mr. Burne Jones, whilst choice examples of Hispano-Mauresque and Rhodian ware, European and Oriental china, Hammersmith carpets, Morris rugs, ancient and modern embroidery, Renaissance designs, Eastern fabrics, and specimens of the modern Art-Needlework, combine to form a very varied, pleasing, and educational exhibition. The movement, we understand, is quite new, and it is to be hoped, will not stop here, but act as an incentive to further efforts of the kind. The exhibition could only be kept open during the short period at Easter when the schools were unoccupied; but in the first week over 5,000 of the poor people in the neighbourhood were admitted at threepence a head, the largest daily number being, significantly enough, on Easter people in the neighbourhood were admitted at threepence a head, the largest daily number being, significantly enough, on Easter Sunday, when it was open under the auspices of the Sunday Society. The expenses incurred amount to 250%, which, of course, cannot be covered by the receipts, though, if the time of the Exhibition had not been limited, there can be no doubt that in the end it would have more than paid its way. Perhaps some of our wealthy philanthropists may take the hint which these facts convey.

THE SWISS WATCH TRADE.—The recently published returns of the result of the International Watch Competition at the Melof the result of the International Waten Competition at the Melbourne Exhibition will be read with interest by all whom they concern. Switzerland stands at the head of the horological pole, as it deserves to be, if only on account of the great spirit and enterprise with which that country has endeavoured so successfully to develop the watch trade. For accuracy of time-keeping and excellence of finish the Swiss watch gains one out of a possible Loop points. watch trade. For accuracy of time-keeping and excellence of finish the Swiss watch gains 903 out of a possible 1,000 points, the second position being gained by an American firm; but it should be mentioned that, whereas the Swiss watch gained for accuracy—the highest quality a watch can possess—all that was possible, viz., 500 points, the American gained but 430 points. In the matter of accuracy, a London maker carried off the second prize, he being only five points behind the Swiss; but, judging from the jurors' verdict, we do not shine as watch finishers. England's champion on this head gained only 310 points out of the possible 500. America carried off the palm for finish and general appearance. It is only fair to observe that the want of finish alleged against English watches has since been strenuously denied. Trade experts are well aware that Exhibition juries are by no means infallible. are well aware that Exhibition juries are by no means infallible.

UNPROVOKED STREET ASSAULTS. ——It would almost seem that at uncertain intervals certain imps of mischief are empowered with at uncertain intervals certain imps of mischief are empowered with a mission to exercise their specialty in wickedness, by means of human agency. Otherwise, how shall we account for the fact that a crime of an uncommon kind is seldom committed without its being almost immediately followed by another and still another of exactly the same type? As, for example, it is fortunately rare that one man meeting another in the street will fall on and ferociously ill-use him with no other object than the gratification of a brutal instinct suddenly conceived. Singularly enough, three such cases were reported at the police courts last week within two days. In one instance two ruffians, chimney-sweeps by trade, chanced to meet an proffensive gentleman, to them a perfect stranger, knocked him instance two rufhans, chimney-sweeps by trade, chanced to meet an inoffensive gentleman, to them a perfect stranger, knocked him down into the mud, and, having amused themselves for a time with kicking him while he lay helpless, took to their heels; but were shortly taken at the bar of a public house, where they were probably refreshing themselves after the doughty exploit, and laughing over the joke. In the second case a peaceful working man, a farmer, happened to be walking on the same side of the street as that along mappened to be walking on the same side of the street as that along which two young fellows, who had been to the Boat Race, were proceeding. They asked him for a light for their cigars, and on his civilly complying they knocked him down off hand, bruising his arm and blackening both his eyes. No excuse was made for the scandalous outrage, and both young gentlemen were sent to prison for two months with hard labour. The third case had its peculiar features. The prisoner, a young sailor, met the prosecutor walking with a worse left, and this line were self in them of the man in with a young lady, and thinking no more of him than of the man in the moon, came behind him, and struck him a violent blow at the back of the head. But the imp who actuated the savage assault seemed to have possessed the young sailor but momentarily. When asked by the magistrate what he had to say he penitently replied, "The gentleman has spoken the truth, and I want to be flogged for it, for I deserve it. It is really wicked for me to have done it. I wish to be flogged. After I have had my punishment I will go back to sea." The magistrate, however, having no power to grant the remorseful prisoner's desire, fined him ten shillings, with the alternative of fourteen days, imprisonment alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment.



LEGAL BUSINESS.—The advantages of the single judge system nitiated under Lord Coleridge in the Common Law Division of the High Court of Justice are already beginning to make themselves visible, there being but very few cases left to try when the Courts rose last week for the Eastern Division, instead of the usual large batch of arrears.

THE CENSUS .-THE CENSUS.—A tradesman at Grandborough, Buckinghamshire, has been fined 11. and 18s. 6d. costs for refusing either to fill up the Census Paper or to give information to the enumerator to

ANOTHER FENIAN SCARE.--Some excitement was created last week by the report that an "Irish-American," who had been seen loitering about in a boat off the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, at three o'clock in the morning, had been arrested by the police. It turns out, however, that his evil designs were only of a predatory character, and he has accordingly been arrested by the for character, and he has accordingly been arrested by the for character than the bas accordingly been arrested by the for character. and he has accordingly been sent to gaol for a month for stealing the boat in which he was found, the police inspector repudiating the supposition that Fenianism had anything to do with the case, and complaining of the misleading reports which had been published; and the magistrate remarking that the prisoner "did not look clever enough to be a Fenian." enough to be a Fenian."

DECK LOADING. -- If Mr. Plimsoll were still a Member of Parliament we should probably hear more of a case which has just been decided in the Wreck Commissioners' Court, where the master of a vessel, who was accused of having laden his ship in a dangerous way by placing on her upper deck 300 bales of cotton and 110 tons of coal, was acquitted, on the ground that the practice which he had followed was "very common in the trade"—the very reason we should have imagined for inflicting an exemplary punishment.

THE HOLIDAY CHARGES at the various Metropolitan Police Courts were noticeably few and unimportant, being in most districts less even than those of the court of t less even than those of the corresponding week last year, a fact which may be taken as a proof that the mass of holiday-makers are gradually growing more sober and well-behaved than of yore. In one case an over-convivial party, who had been locked up for stealing a horse and trap, were released on its being shown that they had no felonious intent; and in another a man whom the police had arrested in the very act of clearing out the pockets of a drunken man proved the honesty of his intention by showing that the bacchante was his friend and comrade, and that it had been arranged between them that if either of them got drunk the other should take care of his valuables.

-Great excitement has been created in CRIMES OF VIOLENCE.-CRIMES OF VIOLENCE.—Great excitement has been created in Slough by the murder of Mrs. Reville, a butcher's wife. On Monday last week she was found dead at her desk in a room behind the shop, having been killed by a blow with a meat chopper. The coroner's jury have returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against a lad named Payne, aged sixteen, who was in Mr. Reville's employ, and who is now in custody, but who declares that he knows pathing of the gime. It was however shown that he was the employ, and who is now in custody, but who declares that he knows nothing of the crime. It was, however, shown that he was the last person to leave the shop, and his handwriting is declared by Mr. Chabot to correspond to that of a note which was left behind by the murderer.—At Preston, on Saturday last, two youths named Foster and Hunter, aged nineteen and sixteen, were illtreating a woman in the streets, when a man named Eccleston interposed to protect her. The young ruffians immediately knocked him down, and kicked him to death with their sharp-pointed iron-shod clogs. Both were arrested, and are now in custody under remand. At the inquest a verdict of "Murder, but not wilful," was first returned, but this being rejected, a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Hunter only was given.—At Liverpool a woman servant, who revenged herself upon her mistress for declining to give her a character by beating her severely with a broomstick as she lay in bed, has been let off with the light sentence of three months' imprisonment.



THE SEASON.—All the trees are "thickening," and the limes and larches are green with new growth. Plum and cherry and peach blossom make gay the orchards, and brighten up the garden walls. The time of the singing of birds is, indeed, come. The cuckoo has been heard as far north as Fifeshire, and our spring visitors have nearly all been announced by those "advanced guards" which all migrations seem to have. From Holy Thursday over Easter Monday the weather fulfilled all possible desire. The woods, heaths, and ponds were full of life. Pheasants sought the footpaths and roadways, as they so strangely do in the egging season, while squirrels were active, and haves and rabbits were full of the frolic traditional to March. On the heaths lizards were lively after their winter sleep, while frogs and newts were astir in the ponds. Bees were once more abroad. Since then there has been a killing spell of east wind.

In the Woods the past four months have wrought great -All the trees are "thickening," and the limes

IN THE WOODS the past four months have wrought great damage. Pines are not usually snapt, yet we saw several in the course of a short drive on Saturday last. Many oaks and elms have been sadly despoiled of their upper branches, and on exposed edges the number of fallen trees often suggests rather the work of the woodcutter than of the wind.

ST. Mark's Day, April 25, is a great day for fairs in the We t country. This year there will be more or less important gatherings at Worcester, Stratford-on-Avon, Shiffnal, Wem, Gloucester, Monmouth, Wellington, and Newport in Shropshire. The old superstition about watching at the church gate on St. Mark's Eve has still a certain hold in these parts. Our ancestors had so many premonitions of approaching death that it is a wonder any one lived.

THE BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW has been postponed till 27th and 28th April. That the change is popular is evidenced by the fact that the fresh entries greatly exceed the withdrawals. There will be 250 young bulls on sale at this show. Lords Beauchamp, Spencer, Morton, Colonel Kingscote, Sir H. Allsopp, and G. R. Phillips are among the exhibitors.

Phillips are among the exhibitors.

FARM BUILDINGS.—Mr. Gladstone's proposal to rate farm buildings is meeting with extensive opposition. The Premier seems to have no adequate conception of the dire distress to which the agricultural interest is now subject. To say, as does Mr. Gladstone, that the dwelling-house and farm buildings cannot be valued apart is as absurd as it would be to say that the land and the buildings upon it cannot be valued apart. As a compromise, however, might we suggest that the farmers should be charged on their dwelling-houses in proportion to the value of the property they farm?

BEDFORDSHIRE.—Last week we alluded, from private sources, to the extent of depression in the Eastern Midlands. We now learn from the Assessment Committee for Bedfordshire that 16,000 acres of farm land are unoccupied, and that a much greater area is likely to be vacant at Michaelmas.

likely to be vacant at Michaelmas.

LINCOLNSHIRE. — Many persons think that depression culminates in this county. Treats for arable have fallen about forty-five per cent., for pasturage about twenty-five per cent. on the figures of 1878.

ESSEX.—The purely arable lands in this county are not worth within thirty per cent. of what was easily obtained three years ago. We learn this on very good authority. Many solicitors and land agents say not within fifty per cent. And this despite the proximity of the great London market, where, of wheat alone, over 2,500,000 quarters are consumed in the course of a single year. quarters are consumed in the course of a single year.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND is also depressed. Some large lettings in Northumberland have recently been made at a reduction of 6s. 8d. in the pound.

THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT has consented to indemnify purchasers at his annual spring timber sale against any charge for extraordinary traffic to be made under the Highway Act, 1878. May we ask whether such stipulations are desirable?

A NEW FLOWER.—Our readers will be glad to learn that a beautiful white orchid has been introduced into England from

PLANTING OUT.—Now is the time to plant out cauliflowers, cabbages, and lettuces, and to sow broccoli and kale. In the forcing department young celery plants should now be pricked out.

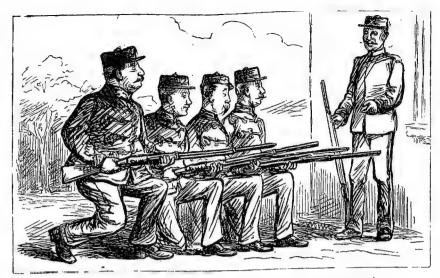
KEW.—The curious and pretty little Baea hygrometica is now in bloom, also the charming flag known as Dietes Huttoni. The roadway entrance to the gardens is now being greatly improved.

RUTS.—Complaints of heavy highway rates not being absolutely unknown, we may be excused making a suggestion on the subject. Repairs, we believe, would be lighter than they now are if waggoners would avoid forming ruts by quartering the roadway. Straight roads suffer greatly by strings of vehicles keeping in one rut on either side. The seventy-second section of the Highway Act of 1835 would, we fancy, meet the case.

MISCELLANEOUS. -- It is proposed to hold a Horse Show at Dereham this summer.—Two fine otters were killed last week at Westacre in Norfolk.—Ipswich market is now re-opened free from all restrictions.—Public protest has been made against holding the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society's Show on Ascension Day.—
Complaints are freely made at Oxford as to the dilapidated and miserable state of the Cattle Market.—Basford Wood, near Crewe, has been partially burnt. It is generally thought in the district that , the fire was of an incendiary character.



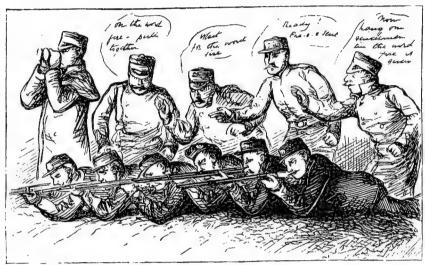




EASIER SAID THAN DONE-"GET WELL DOWN ON THE HEEL, SIR"



THE EXPEDIENT



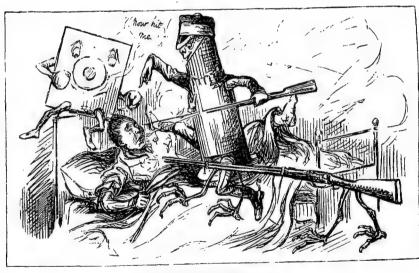
VOLLEY FIRING AT LONG RANGE



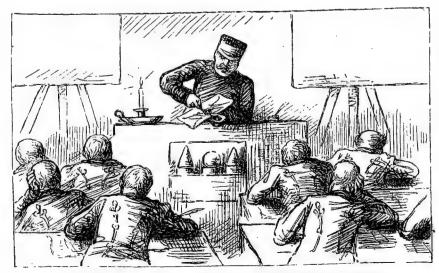
THE PET SHOT



LUNCHEON-THE LAST OF THE PIE



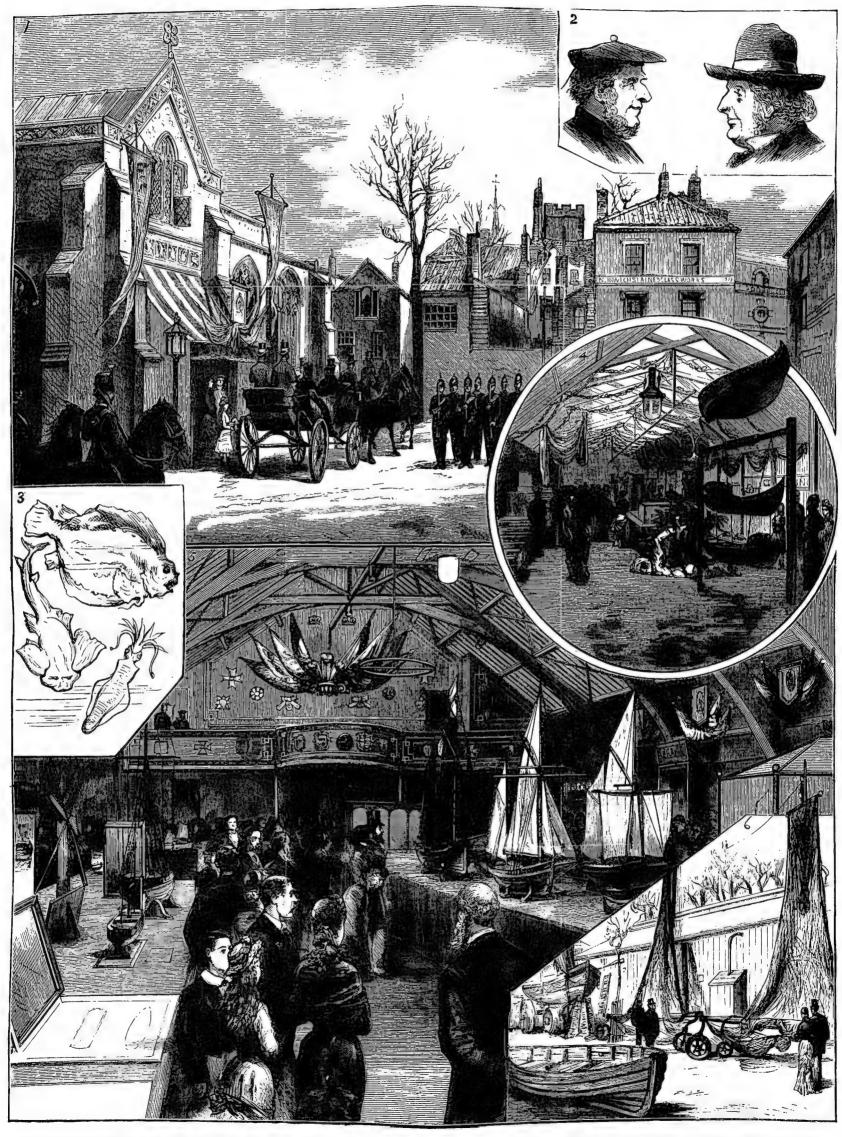
THE STUDENT'S NIGHTMARF



THE FINAL EXAMINATION—SEALING UP THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT



"JOY, JOY FOR EVER"-MY COURSE IS DONE



1. Arrival of the Prince of Wales at St. Andrew's Hall.—2. Norfolk Fishermen.—3. Odd Fish.—4 The Annexe.—5. The Exhibition in the Drill Hall.—6. Improved Trawling Nets.

OPENING OF THE NATIONAL FISHERIES' EXHIBITION AT NORWICH

"THE SYMBOL" From the Painting by Frank Dickser, A.R.A. Frontispiece.
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OUR LIVING ARTISTS: WILLIAM QUILLER ORCHARDSON, R.A. By ALICE MEYNELL. With Vortexit and Two Engravings. ortrait, and Two Engravings.
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CHILDREN IN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE.
By J. H. P. With Four Engravings.
THE HOMES OF OUR ARTISTS: MR. MILLAIS
HOUSE AT PALACE GATE.
CASTLE. With Five Illustrations.
THE FUTURE OF SCULPTURE IN LONDON.
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DEUGRATIVE IRON WORK. BY GEORGE WALLIS.
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With Six Illustrations.
THE STREETS AS ART-GALLERIES. With Two Engravings
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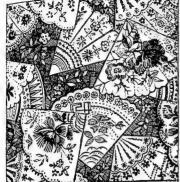
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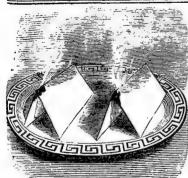
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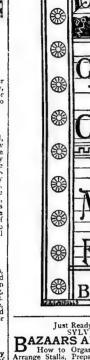
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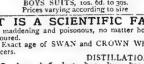
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AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, 1873—SKETCHED FROM LIFE

THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD

THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD, K.G.

BORN DEC. 21, 1804

DIED APRIL 19, 1881

L ORD BEACONSFIELD was perhaps the most striking exemplification of Sidonia's theory that the Hebrew is the governing race of the world, and at no period of his life did he regard his Hebrew descent otherwise than with pride. And well might he do so. In the graceful and touching memoir of his father prefixed to the edition of the "Curiosities of Literature," published in 1848, Lord Beaconsfield refers to the fact that the race from which he springs is the most ancient upon earth. There are Hebrews who can trace their pedigree unbroken for interminable generations, but there is only one caste—the Scphardim—who can with justice boast that their ancestors were always of gentle blood. Of those Sephardim, almost the last unmingled representative was the Earl of Beaconsfield. A recent

Sephardim, almost the last unmingled representative was the Earl of Beaconsfield. A recent writer working on the basis of the incidental revelations of his own personality made by the late Earl in the course of his various writings has discovered that the family of which he was undoubtedly a cadet is no other than the illustrious house of Mendizibal y Mendoza, which gave princes, archbishops, and bishops innumerable to Spain, and which traces its descent to that Meshezabeel, Prince of Judah, who, as recorded in Nehemiah x. 21, sealed the Covenant after the return of the Jews from captivity. The notion may possibly appear somewhat far-fetched, but it derives some countenance from the two facts that the name of Disraeli was avowedly assumed by the grandfather of the late Earl, and that "Ben-Disraeli's is the Hebrew

that "Ben-Disraeli" is the Hebrew anagram of "Mendizibal."

The grandfather of Benjamin Disraeli came to England from Venice in 1747. Up to the end of the fifteenth century his family had lived in Spain, where, as we learn from "Coningsby," the Jews "were treated with tenderness and consideration" until "the Inquisition appeared." Amongst those who were driven from Spain were the ancestors of the present Lord Beaconsfield. They settled in Venice, and under the mild and tolerant rule of that Republic for more than two hundred years they traded in peace. Towards the middle of the eighteenth century the altered circumstances of England attracted many Hebrews to this country, amongst whom was Benjamin Disraell. He was naturalised soon after the failure of the second Stuart rebellion, and was then eighteen years of age. When seventeen years later—in 1765—he married he was already a man of fortune. In the words of his grandson he "settled near Enfield, where he formed an Italian garden, entertained his friends, played whist with Sir Horace Mann, who was his great acquaintance, and who had known his brother at Venice as a banker, ate macaroni which was dressed by the Venetian Consul, sang canzonettas, and, notwithstanding a wife who never pardoned him for his name and a son who disappointed all his plans, and who to the last hour of his life was an enigma to him, lived till he was nearly ninety, and then died in 1817 in the full enjoyment of prolonged existence."

The house was standing until within a very recent date, and of late years was used as the terminus of the Enfield branch of the Great Eastern Railway. When it was pulled down to make room for the new station, the front—a remarkably fine specimen of early eighteenth century architecture—was bought by the authorities of

South Kensington, and placed in the Construction Court of that Museum.

The son was Isaac Disraeli, the well-known author of so many volumes of literary history, criticism, and research. He was born in 1766, educated in a desultory fashion, partly in England, partly in Holland, and after scandalising his father with his violent Rousseauism, his devotion to literature, and his contempt for trade, settled down to the life of a man of letters very early in the present century. His son says of him that "he was a complete literary character, a man who really passed his life in a library. Even marriage produced no change in these habits: he rose to enter the chamber where he lived alone with his books, and at night his lamp was ever

lit within the same walls. . . . He disliked business, and he never required relaxation—he was absorbed in his pursuits. In London his only amusement was to ramble among booksellers; if he entered a club it was only to go into the library. In the country he scarcely ever left his room but to saunter in abstraction upon a terrace; muse over a chapter, or coin a sentence. He had not a single passion or prejudice. . . . He not only never entered into the politics of the day, but he could never understand them." Such was the father of the future ruler of the destinies of England, and father and son appear to have been alike proud of each other. When towards the evening of his life Lady Blessington had made

registers of the Portuguese Synagogue in Bevis Marks, with which Isaac Disraeli was then connected, it may be assumed that they are correct. As became the son of a Hebrew, Benjamin was received into the covenant of Abraham by David Abarbanel Lindo, a relative of his family, and a Portuguese merchant of high standing. With that event, however, his practical connection with Judaism comes to an end. Isaac Disraeli had, as we have seen, returned from the Continent saturated with the theories of Rousseau and Voltaire, and Mr. Picciotto tells us that his attention to his religious duties was always extremely lax. As a matter of course, he was a member of the Synagogue, and as such paid a finta, or assessment of 10l. a year. In 1813 he was elected to the office of Parnass, or Warden, an office which, as he never went

a finta, or assessment of 101. a year. In 1813 he was elected to the office of Parnass, or Warden, an office which, as he never went near the Synagogue, he very naturally declined to fill, his letter of refusal being dated from the King's Road, Bedford Row. Upon this refusal the Mahamad (Wardens) fined him 401., which he promptly refused to pay. Summoned to a meeting of the Wardens he wrote a somewhat forcible letter declining to submit to the yoke which it was sought to place upon him, and the matter remained in abeyance until 1817, when further pressure having been put upon him he wrote to say that he was "under the painful necessity of insisting that his name be erased from the list of members as Yehedim (contributing members) of the Synagogue." His brother-in-law, George Basevi, followed his example, and although for the sake of securing the certificates of his marriage and of the births of his children he paid up his subscriptions to 1817, he was practically at no time a Jew, otherwise than by blood, after his return from the Continent. Under the care of some of his mother's connexions, and at the instigation, it is said, of Samuel Rogers, the banker poet, Benjamin Disraeli was baptised at the parish church of St. Andrew, Holborn, on the 31st of July, 1817. The register records that he was then "said to be about twelve years old."

Isaac Distraeli, on his marriage, exteled in the then rural village

settled in the then rural village of Islington, where the future Prime Minister was born. Being one of the most constant frequenters of the library of the British Museum, for convenience of access he took a house, in or about 1809, in the King's Road, Gray's Inn—then an almost rural spot, and very different from the crowded locality it has since become. Later on—in 1825—he removed to an estate which he had bought at Bradenham, in Bucks, and with that event commenced the connexion of his illustrious son with the county which he has so aptly designated "the county of statesmen." From Bradenham House the prefaces to the early works and election addresses of the younger Disraeli were regularly dated; the removal to Hughenden Manor not occurring until after his marriage.

As regards Mr. Disraeli's educant

As regards Mr. Disraeli's education, the particulars accessible are singularly meagre. No public school can boast of having taught him; no University is proud to enrol his name amongst those of her sons. Even the names of his tutors are forgotten, if we except that of his father, to whose varied erudition and brilliant scholarship he unquestionably owed much. At an early age, in compliance with the Hebrew custom, he

he unquestionably owed much.
At an early age, in compliance with the Hebrew custom, he entered the office of Messrs. Swain and Co., the attorneys, of Frederick's Place, Old Jewry. His stay here was, however, very short, and his place was filled by his brother, who afterwards obtained one of those offices for which a legal education is an indispensable qualification. He was never articled, and from the first evinced an aversion to "the desk's dull wood," preferring, according to one account, to read works of imagination rather than to fill his mind with precedents and formulas. It is to this fact that we must ascribe the ridiculous fable with which some writers have amused the world that "Vivian Grey" was written when its author "was a copying clerk in a lawyer's office." As a matter-of-fact Isaac Disraeli was always a man of easy



THE AUTHOR OF "VIVIAN GREY" FROM THE SKETCH FROM LIFE BY DANIEL MACLISE, R.A., IN THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM

Gore House the centre of all that was famous in art and literature, the Disraelis were by no means the least conspicuous figures there.

Isaac Disraeli married in 1802 a sister of George (Joshua) Basevi, the well-known Hebrew architect, to whom Cambridge is indebted for the fine "Fitzwilliam Museum." She lived to the age of eighty-two, dying in 1847, one year before her husband. To them were born four children, the eldest, Sarah, on the 6th December, 1809; Benjamin, the late Earl of Beaconsfield, on 21st December, 1804—not 1806, as usually given; Ralph in 1809, and James in 1813. These dates, we may remark, are taken from Picciotto's "Sketches of Anglo-Jewish History," and as they are copied from the

notion can be based.

fortune, and at no period of his life did his illustrious son feel the burden of poverty which so frequently cramps the

flight of aspiring genius There is a story of this period in Mr. Disraeli's life to the There is a story of this period in Mr. Disraeli's life to the effect that he was the editor of, or if not the editor, one of the principal contributors to, Mr. Murray's short-lived evening paper, *The Representative*. For this belief there is, however, no foundation. Abundant internal evidence is afforded by the dulness and ferocity of its articles that the brilliant author of "Vivian Grey" had nothing to do with the work but the matter is absolutely set at rest by a letter the work, but the matter is absolutely set at rest by a letter from Lord Beaconsfield himself, dated 1851, and published in the Athenæum, in which he distinctly contradicts "the constantly repeated story of a newspaper called *The Representative*, in which," he says, "I never wrote a single line, and never was asked to write a single line." It is worthy of remark that in an article in the Edinburgh Review for 1852, the fable is repeated "with a circumstance." Mr. Murray is there said to have declared that he lost 20,000. wholly through the "Alnaschar-like visions of young Disraeli." It has been further stated that at this period Lord Beaconsfield's contributions to periodical literature were somewhat numerous, but it is extremely difficult to discover upon what such a

"VIVIAN GREY"

"Vivian Grey" made its appearance in two instalments, the first, of three volumes, being published in 1826, when its author was in his twenty-second year, and the second, of two, in 1827. It appeared anonymously, but it fairly took the town by storm. Its popularity continues to this day. Its faults are the faults of youth and inexperience; its merits those of genius of no ordinary kind. As soon as it appeared society set itself to appropriate the characters of the novel to living personages, and a pamphlet called "A Key to 'Vivian Grey' reached its tenth edition before the end of 1827—a proof of the astonishing popularity of the book. It may be interesting to recall some of the persons thus gibbeted in this precocious work, though it ought to be remembered that in this, as in all his novels, the main features only of the person caricatured are reproduced. The studious father of the hero, who never interferes in politics and who "hopes the urchin will never scribble," is, of course, sketched from Isaac Disraeli; while the son, educated at a private school, and full of wit and cleverness, is also undoubtedly designed in the elements of his character for the author himself. Amongst other members of society may be found the Marquis of Clanricarde figuring as the Marquis of Carabas; Mr. (afterwards Lord) Brougham as Mr. Foaming Fudge; Mr. Canning as Mr. Charlatan Gas; Lord Eldon as Lord Past Century; Prince Esterhazy as Prince Hungary; Mrs. Coutts as Mrs. Million; Lord William Lennox as Lord Prima Donna; Lady Caroline Lambe as Mrs. Felix Lorraine; Theodore Hook as Stanislaus Hoax; the Marquis of Charlogyut; Prince Legald of Hertford as the Marquis of Grandgout; Prince Leopold (afterwards King of the Belgians) as the Prince of Little Lilliput; the Miss Berrys as the Miss Otrantos; Horace Twiss as Vivacity Dull; Metternich as Beckendorf; Abernethy as Dr. Spittergen; and Lord Burghersh as Lord Amelius Fitzfudge Boroughby. The list might be indefinitely extended. There must, however, have been something better than mere personalities to secure enduring popularity for a book which is by the confession of its author "as hot and hurried a sketch as ever was penned." "Vivian Grey" is in short a work of genius, of genius immature and erratic it may be, but genius all the same. It is full of thought, full of wit, marked by the most astonishing vivacity, and of singular interest merely as a novel of incident.

The author of "Vivian Grey" awoke to find himself famous, and with astonishing self-restraint fled from his newly-found honours to mature his mind by farther travel and observation. Ere he departed he gave to the world another work, this time conceived in a different vein. This was the

"VOYAGE OF CAPTAIN POPANILLA,"

A brilliant satire on the manners and customs of 1828. It has been recently reprinted, and will be found eminently in-teresting as a study of the author's earlier manner. The scene of the hero's adventures is the Isle of Fantasie, and in the still stranger island of Vraibleusia, the capital of which is the city of Hubbabub. When it is mentioned that the last name means London, the second England, and the first Ireland, the nature of the satire will be probably understood. The manner in which it is carried out is admirable. In style it is worthy of the author of "Gulliver" himself, and it is surprising that it should have been allowed to drop into obscurity.

The young author had already visited the Continent, but he now entered upon a more extended pilgrimage. Popanilla" was published early in 1829, and by the autumn Disraeli the Younger," as he delighted to be called in those days, was on his way to

THE MYSTIC EAST.

He spent the winter at Constantinople. In 1830 he was in Albania; in the following year in Syria. Of his various journeyings Lord Beaconsfield has preserved no direct record, but the hints and allusions scattered throughout the long series of his novels afford distinct proof that they were himself. In Syria, the cradle of his race, he evidently passed no small part of his time. Egypt and the Upper Nile he explored at a period when Cook's tourists were not, and the expedition was not the winter holiday it has since become. At Janina he found himself in the midst of a dangerous revolt of Albanians; at Jerusalem he nearly lost his life in an attempt to penetrate the Mosque of Omar. At one period we hear of him as on the coast of the Adriatic; at another as exploring the ruins of Rome; at another as visiting Granada and the Alhambra. "On the windy plains of Troy," as he tells us, he conceived the idea of his

"REVOLUTIONARY EPICK,"

a fragment of which only has appeared, published at a later period, when the author was already entering upon that great political career which has eclipsed even his literary reputation. The leading idea of the work is, as he explains in his preface, the fact that it is the duty of the poet to endeavour to embody in his work the spirit of his time. Thus an heroic age produced an Heroic Epick—the "Iliad;" the consolidation of the most superb of Empires, a political Epick-the "Æneid;" the Revival of Learning and the Birth of National Genius, a National Epick—the "Divine Comedy;" the Reformation and its consequences, a Religious Epick—the Reformation and its consequences, a kengious Epick—the "Paradise Lost" of Milton. The spirit of his own time was Revolutionary, and "for me," said he, "remains the Revolutionary Epick." The composition of this work occupied its author during a portion of his stay in Constantinople, and it was partially resumed in London. In his preface "Disraeli the Younger" expresses more diffidence than was his wont. "Whatever may be their (the public's) decision," he says, "I shall bow to it without a murmur; for I am not one who finds consolation for the neglect of my contemporaries in the imaginary plaudits of a more sympathetic posterity. The public will then decide whether this work is to be continued and completed; and if it pass in the negative I shall without a pang hurl my lyre to limbo." The public did so decide. The "Revolutionary Epick" was received with but little enthusiasm, and posterity has endorsed the contemporary verdict. In plain truth the genius of "Disraeli the Younger" was not distinctly poetical. The fragment of verse here submitted to the public abounds with splendid and most eloquent passages, but their qualities are those of rhetoric and not of

poetry.

Besides this work, begun rather than matured, Disraeli the Younger sent home from the East to his publishers in London the manuscript of "The Wondrous Tale of Alroy" a prose poem, which we should be inclined to class with Hope's "Anastatius," and which had it stood alone would hope's "Anastatius," and which had it stood atone would have secured for its author a very high place in the Republic of Letters—and "Contarini Fleming; or, The Psychological Romance"—a title which he assures us "is of bibliopolic origin, and means nothing." His own criticism on the latter work deserves quotation. "I published 'Contarini Fleming' work deserves quotation." work deserves quotation. "I published 'Contarini Fleming' anonymously," he says, "and in the midst of a revolution. It was almost stillborn, and having written it with deep thought and feeling I was naturally discouraged from further effort. . . Gradually 'Contarini Fleming' found sympathising readers; Goethe and Beckford were impelled to communicate their unsolicited opinions of this work to its anonymous author, and I have seen a criticism on it by

Heine, of which any writer might be justly proud."

The "discouragement from further effort," of which Lord Beaconsfield here speaks, applies, of course, only to effort in the direction of literary labour. A mind of such energy and versatility could not long remain inactive. Naturally enough he turned his attention to politics very speedily after his return from the East. During his absence an enormous revolution had been accomplished, not wholly without bloodshed, and the Whigs, having carried the Reform Bill, were masters of the situation. They had concentrated the representative power in the hands of the middle classes under the pretext that the lower were unfit for political rights, and they had placed the government of the country practically in the hands of a few great families. Such at all events was the view which Mr. Disraeli took, and which Lord Beaconsfield uniformly held. In 1831, as he himself has said, he found "an oligarchy substituted for a kingdom, and a narrow-minded and bigoted fanaticism flourishing in the name of religious liberty," This he traced to our care-lessness in not distinguishing between the excellence of a principle and its injurious or absolute application. "The principle and its injurious or absolute application. feudal system," he goes on, "may have worn out, but its main principle that the tenure of property should be the fulfilment of duty is the essence of good government. The Divine Right of Kings may have been a plea for feeble tyrants, but the Divine Right of Government is the keystone of progress, and without it Governments sink into police, a nation is degraded into a mob."

Filled with these ideas, and exasperated almost beyond bounds by the practical ascendancy which had been gained by the Whigs during the struggles for reform of the last years of the "twenties," Benjamin Disraeli presented himself in 1821 to the electors of in 1831 to the electors of

HIGH WYCOMBE

He came before them as an independent candidate, and, as independent candidates usually do, he relied upon the fusion of certain very opposite interests. The best description which could be given of his political attitude in May, 1832, would probably be that which was given by one of his enemies during the debates on the Reform Bill of 1867. He was a "Democratic Tory.' His election address was dated, like the "Revolutionary Epick" of later days, from Bradenham House, and was somewhat vague in its wording. Of positive principle there was not too much, whilst both the great political parties in the State met with sharp reprehension. He refused to join the Tories because he found them "in a state of ignorant stupefaction." His objection to them was, however, less their ignorance than the fact that they were "haunted with a nervous apprehension of that bugbear, the People-that bewildering title under which a miserable minority contrive to coerce and plunder the nation." The meaning of this was clear enough, it may now be thought. The young aspirant for Parliamentary honours distrusted the Tories of his day, but he hated the Whigs with a perfect hatred, and he thought that success was to be obtained by uniting the extreme parties against the middle, trusting to time to prove that the Tory party were the best friends the lasses could have. Unfortunately the elec-High Wycombe preferred the rival candidate, Colonel Grey, a brother of the then Premier, and in later years known to fame as the author of the first volume of the Life of the

With the autumn came the long expected dissolution, and again Mr. Disraeli presented himself to the electors of High Wycombe. His address was very full, and was mainly a protest against the principles of Whiggism. In the course of it however, he ranges himself very distinctly on the side of the poor declaring that he will include his support from of the poor, declaring that he will withhold his support from any Government which will not do something to ameliorate their condition, restore trade, and reanimate credit. Romilly was at this time engaged in his crusade against the inhumanity of the criminal trade in his crusade against the inhumanity of the criminal law, and Mr. Disraeli announced himself as thoroughly in accord with him. Slavery also he was anxious to see abolished—his only difficulty is as to the means. The sting of the address lies in its conclusion, in which Mr. Disraeli calls upon his fellow countryman to "rid themselves of all that political jargon and factious slang of Whig and Tory-two names with one meaning used only to delude you-and unite in forming a great national party

which can alone save the country from impending destruc-This national party was the dream of Lord Beaconsfield's life, and its character is sketched by him in a pamphlet published about the time under the tide "What is he?" He devotes the greater part of the pamphlet to a protest against the Whig principle. "A Tory and a Radical," he says, "I can understand: a Whig—a democratic aristocrat—I cannot comprehend." He then calls upon the Tories to co-He then calls upon the Tories to coalesce with the Radicals, to adopt a part of their programme, and by opposing a united front to the dominance of the middle classes secure a genuinely representative and national Government. The idea of this pamphlet, or of this address of 1832, it will be remarked is in the main identical with that which underlies the Reform Bill of 1867. It was only to be expected that principles like these should be eminently unpopular with the Whigs, but they never fell into the blunder of later days by representing their opponent as a Radical. In their eyes he was always a Tory, and as a Tory he was defeated by a small majority by Colonel Grey.

Ere many months were past Lord Melbourne's first Administration crumbled into the dust, and High Wycombe was once more called upon to exercise the right of electing a Parliamentary representative. Again Mr. Disraeli came to the front, only again to be defeated, though by eleven votes only. But no one can regret the conflict, for it brought from him a speech full of wit and wisdom. On the strength of the support he had obtained from Messrs. O'Connell and Hume, he might have been considered a Radical in some quarters, but in this speech-afterwards published with his name

under the title of

"THE CRISIS EXAMINED,"

the trumpet gives no uncertain sound. voice of a Tory—a Reformer, if you will, but still a Tory. He will repeal the Malt Tax for the relief of the agricultural interest. He is disposed not to "reform" so much as to "improve" the Church by abolishing pluralities. He would maintain the Irish Church, but he would not describe for the benefit of a Whig aristocracy. "I not despoil her for the benefit of a Whig aristocracy. "I remember Woburn," says he, "and I profit by the reminiscence." He would concede the claims of Dissenters so far as Marriage and Registration are concerned, and would seem to be ready to meet them half-way about Church rates, but he would on principle maintain the Church of England. The point of the speech lay in the peroration, which is, we venture to say, one of the finest things of the kind ever achieved. All the greater men had vanished from the first reformed Cabinet except Lords Melbourne, Palmerston, John Russell, and Brougham. The men who had made it really illustrious were all gone, whereupon "Disraeli the Younger" turns the whole thing into the most exquisite ridicule. Lord Durham had withdrawn "on account of ill-health; he generously conceded this plea in charity to the colleagues he despised;" "Lord Grey and Lord Althorp both retire in a morning and—in disgust." Then comes a picture of "the Lord Chancellor (Brougham) dangling about the Great Seal in post chaises, spouting in pot houses, and vowing that he would write to the Sovereign by the post," concluding with a wonderfully witty comparison of Lord Melbourne's attempt to carry on the Reform Ministry to Ducrow riding not six horses, but six donkeys at once.

Nothing could have been better in its way, but High

Wycombe was not to be weaned from its Whiggism by wit, and the heir of Bradenham was once more left in the cold. A vacancy offering itself in April, 1833, at

MARYLEBONE,

he issued an address in which he described himself as one who "sought the support of neither of the aristocratic parties." It was in the course of his candidature on this occasion that he made the famous retort when asked "upon what he stood." "Upon my head," was the reply. The metropolitan constituency was as implacable against him as the rural one which he had previously courted, and in spite of his modified acceptance of the Radical nostrums of Triennial Parliaments and Vote by Ballot, he found so little support that he refrained from going to the poll. Various other efforts were vainly made in the same direction, one of which is recorded in that farrago of libels, hints, insinuations, and half truths—the "Grenville Memoirs"—under date December 6th, 1834.

Once more he attempted to enter Parliament-this time in

April, 1835—at

TAUNTON.

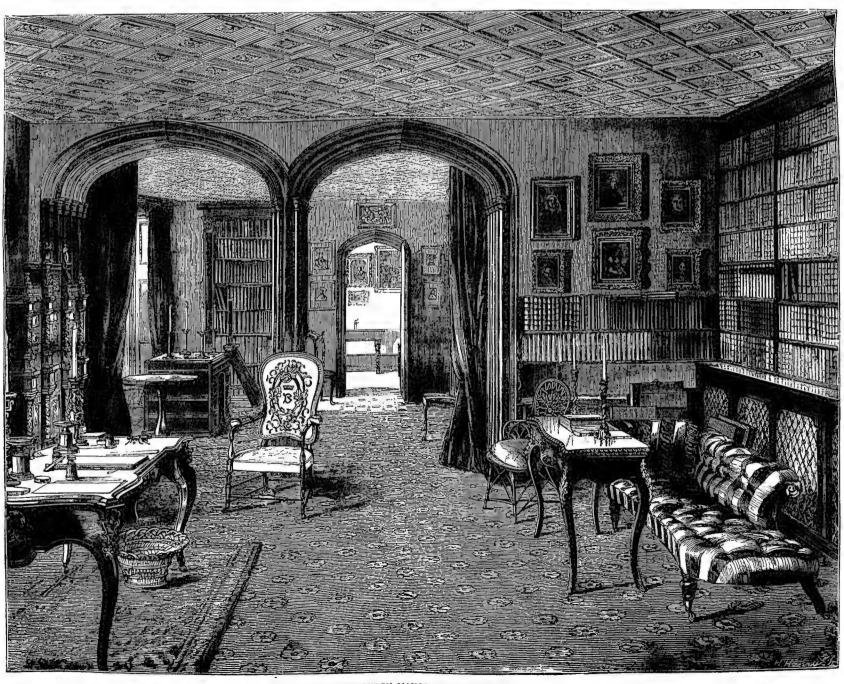
Lord Melbourne had made Mr. Labouchere Master of the Mint, and when, in accordance with the usual custom, he went to his constituents for re-election, he found Mr. Disraeli ready to oppose him. The contest—which resulted in the defeat of the latter by 130 votes—was more than commonly acrimonious—not without reason. O'Connell had at that time just entered upon his notorious alliance with the Whigs in spite of the fact that the Whigs had heretofore treated him as one almost out of the pale of civilisation, had denounced him as a traitor, and had covered his demands on behalf of Ireland with contempt. In their despair of being able to maintain their hold on office and its emoluments by other means they had sought the support of the "Liberator" and his "tail," and he, knowing that nothing was likely to be obtained from any other party, had accepted their overtures. So flagitious a compact naturally excited Mr. Disraeli to wrath, and in a speech which he made during the election he animadverted in no very gentle terms upon the defection of the Irish chieftain. The

QUARREL BETWEEN O'CONNELL AND MR. DISRAELI,

Which followed, is amongst the most amusing episodes of political history. In his Taunton speech the latter had called his opponent an "incendiary" and a "traitor," and in reply O'Connell delivered one of those addresses which delighted the idolators of the "Liberator," and shocked the genuine friends of Ireland. He was kind enough to style his opponent a "liar," and to say that his life was "a living lie." There was a good deal more of the same sort, and in the end, with dubious taste, but some wit, he described his opponent as possessing "just the qualities of the impenitent thief, whose name," he added, "I verily believe, must have been Disraeli. For aught I know," he went on, "the present Disraeli is descended from him, and with the impression that he is, I now forgive the heir-at-law of the blasphemous thief



HUGHENDEN MANOR-THE PRINCIPAL FRONT



HUGHENDEN MANOR—THE LIBRARY
THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD

405



THE LATE VISCOUNTESS BEACONSFIELD



HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO HUGHENDEN, DECEMBER, 1877 - AT THE RAILWAY STATION, HIGH WYCOMBE

Just at that time another who died upon the cross." personal insult of the grossest kind, uttered in a similar fashion, had induced Lord Alvanley to call upon O'Connell tashion, had induced Lord Alvanley to call upon O'Connell to give him "the satisfaction of a gentleman." O'Connell, who had already "killed his man," refused the challenge, but it was taken up by his son, Morgan O'Connell. Mr. Disraeli, therefore, called upon Mr. Morgan O'Connell, to resume his vicarious office of yielding satisfaction for "the insults which your father has so long lavished with impunity upon his political opponents." The challenge became the subject of an inquiry before the magistrates, and Mr. Disraeli was political opponents." The challenge became the subject of an inquiry before the magistrates, and Mr. Disraeli was bound over to keep the peace. He, however, had his revenge. The Times published his letter to O'Connell, and anything much more severe has seldom appeared in its colums. "Mr. O'Connell," it begins, "although you have long placed yourself out of the pale of civilisation, still I am one who will not be insulted even by a Vahon without chastising it." yourself out of the pale of civilisation, still I am one who will not be insulted, even by a Yahoo, without chastising it." For a moment the strife of party was hushed by the death of William IV., in 1837, and the accession of Her Majesty. In accordance with constitutional custom, the accession of the party Sourceign was followed by a general election at the the new Sovereign was followed by a general election, at the close of which Mr. Disraeli found himself the junior

MEMBER FOR MAIDSTONE,

Having for his colleague Mr. Wyndham Lewis, and for his defeated opponents Colonel Thompson and Mr. Erskine Perry. It is said that Mr. Disraeli's chances on this occasion would have been by no means favourable had it not been for the attempts of the Whigs—attempts which have been repeated on many later occasions—to represent the Sovereign

as pledged to the support of their party.

Parliament met on the 17th of November, and before three weeks were over Mr. Disraeli had made his

MAIDEN SPEECH.

It is the fashion to represent this oration as a failure, as the presumptuous effort of a too ambitious boy, and so forth. Even those who have chosen to adopt the rôle of apologist for the orator have assumed that the report of his enemies is the true one. As a mere matter of fact, however, the first speech of Mr. Disraeli was anything but a failure. The reports of it occupy five and a half pages of "Hansard" and a column of *The Times*, and though the former report adds an explanation to the effect that the noise and confusion prevented a great part of the speech from being heard, the latter shows very clearly that a great portion of the House at least were thoroughly in accord with the speaker, and relished his wit and sarcasm in no common degree. The explanation of the matter is simple enough. Mr. Disraeli's maiden speech was on the Irish Election Petitions. It was in direct reply to O'Connell, and consisted in the main of a series of attacks upon him and his policy. The *mot d'ordre* had gone forth, and the "tail" of the "Liberator" set to work to hoot down the audacious assailant of their idol. Such an assault cannot be said to have produced a "failure." Nor did it. When the member for Maidstone sat down he said:—"I have begun several things many times, and I have often succeeded at last. I will sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me."

How true those words were, and how remarkably they have been fulfilled, it is hardly necessary to point out. For a time, indeed, it appeared as though the factious hootings of the "Pope's Brass Band" had drowned his voice. Yet Mr. Disraeli spoke, and spoke with effect, even during his first Session.

AFTER THE ADJOURNMENT,

the vexed question of the repeal of the Corn Laws was once more brought before the House, and Mr. Disraeli made a brilliant and characteristic speech on the subject. He spoke also on education, and on the extension of the suffiage, and on both in much the same sense as his later utterances. On education he professed his aversion to a centralised system of State education such as that which prevails in "China, Persia, Austria, and Prussia;" he eulogised the individual and corporate efforts which have been the pride of England, and he foreshadowed in no unin-telligible way that theory of Young Englandism of which he was so soon to become the leading exponent. In relation to was so some to become the reading compare this speech, which was delivered on the 20th June, 1839, with that delivered to the working men of Edinburgh eight-and-twenty years later. The advocates of political consistency could scarcely need any further vindication of Lord Beaconsfield's career.

Apart from the mere question of Education, however, this speech is remarkable as striking the keynote of

" YOUNG ENGLAND"

Five years later in "Coningsby" Mr. Disraeli announced the faith the England must be saved by its youth—a belief which he has since repeated on several occasions—and the creed of the youth to whom he there refers may be traced in this speech of 1839. Referring to his opponents, he said with much energy that with them "it was always the State, and never Society—it was always machinery and never sympathy." The whole speech is remarkable and interesting, but its main value consists in the light which it sheds upon the character of the "Young England" party in whose name he spoke. Upon that party it is the fashion in many quarters to pour down abundant ridicule. They are represented as believing that the first duty of an Englishman was "to wear a white waistcoat, and to part his hair down the middle." The feeling which underlay the movement was, however, something very different. It was, briefly, the natural revulsoin of young and generous minds against the selfish materialism which had been preached for a couple of generations as the Evangel of the nineteenth century. The state of the country was, indeed, such as to force thoughtful men to earnest reflection. There were Chartist riots, agrarian outrages, bitter outcries against the severities of the New Poor Law, and a widespread feeling of disaffection. The Whigs found measures of coercion necessary, and they relied upon the known attachment of the Tories to law and order to help them. In giving such help the political Ishmael, "Disraeli the Younger," resolutely refused to join. Lord John Russell had brought in a Bill for the creation of a police force for Birmingham on the plea that the country was in a state of armed insurrection. Against that proposition Mr. Disraeli made a daring and most vigorous stand, and though he did not succeed in carrying the

House with him he did succeed in finding out the weak places in the harness of the Government, and in sending shafts of wit and irony to pierce them. So in like manner, when the working of the Poor Law was in question Mr. Disraeli used both tongue and nor with immense effect on behalf of the both tongue and pen with immense effect on behalf of the poor. More than all, he succeeded in getting the House to listen to him, and making himself recognised as a power in it.

Whilst thus slowly winning his way in Parliament, Mr. Disraeli's pen had not been idle. His

LITERARY LABOURS

at this time were incessant, in spite of the "horror" which he was accustomed even then to profess for "journalising, and, indeed, writing of all description." In 1835 he brought out a pamphlet of some two hundred pages—a "Vindication of the English Constitution in a Letter to a Noble and Learned Lord," and in 1837 he published two novels, "Henrietta Temple" and "Venetia." Unlike most of his other writings, these were not political but as he himself other writings, these were not political, but as he himself says of them, "They commemorate feelings more enduring says of them, "They commemorate feelings more enduring than public passions, and they were written with care and some delight." No one can read those stories without sharing the delight of the author. "Venetia" was less successful. To this period belong also the famous "Letters of Runnymede," never formally owned by Lord Beaconsfield, but always ascribed to him, and, as most critics consider, with excellent reacon with excellent reason.

In 1839 an event occurred which unquestionably affected Mr. Disraeli's future in no ordinary degree. When at the time of his election for Maidstone the former member for the borough, Mr. Wyndham Lewis, stood with him, it was evident that his race was nearly run. Parliament opened, but Mr. Lewis scarcely appeared, and never spoke. Three or four months later he succumbed to the painful disease from which he had long been suffering and some two years from which he had long been suffering, and some two years afterwards Mr. Disraeli

his widow. Mrs. Disraeli, who, as all the world knows, afterwards became Lady Beaconsfield, was the daughter of Captain Viney Evans, R.N., and is understood to have brought to her husband a very considerable accession of fortune. Happily also she brought something else-practical wisdom, sound sense, no ordinary accomplishments, and profound attachment to her brilliant husband. Lord Beaconsfield has on all occasions borne testimony to her admirable qualities notably when at a harvest home at Hughenden he declared that he had "the best wife in England," and when he dedicated "Sybil," to "the most severe of critics, but a perfect

From the time of his marriage his upward progress in POLITICAL LIFE

was marked and striking. The times were hard, and the was marked and striking. The times were hard, and the pressure on the working-classes well-nigh intolerable. The Whigs were still in the ascendant, and Mr. Disraeli could see no national salvation in the "Morison's Pills for the Evils of Society" which that party put forward. The views which he expressed in the speech on Education to which reference has been made were substantially those with which he regarded all social questions. Just as he preferred to trust to individual effort rather than to State machinery for teaching the children of the poor, so in other matters he looked to Society rather than the State, to sympathy rather than to machinery. In this, the year of his marriage, he startled his friends and enemies alike by an open plea for the Chartists, and in the year following he followed up this act by a still more striking speech in the House when the clemency of the Crown was invoked on behalf of Lovett and Collins. It is hardly necessary to say that he had no sympathy with disorder, but he declined also to shut his eyes to the facts that the Chartists had grievous social wrongs of which to complain, and that although their agitation was political in form

it was really designed to bring about social improvement.

In the course of his account of his first interview with Mr. Disraeli Mr. Cooper, the author of "The Purgatory of Suicides," mentions that his host said to him, "I wish I had seen you before I finished my last novel—my heroine, Sybil, is a Chartist." The fact is that during these eventful years Mr. Disraeli's pen had been extraordinarily busy, and to it the literature of England is indebted for three political romances—a trilogy, as their author describes them -which are amongst the most perfect political novels in existence. These novels are

"CONINGSBY," "SYBIL," AND "TANCRED"

The first is devoted to Young England. The object of the party may best be given in the author's own words. It was, he says, "To change back the oligarchy into a generous aristocracy round a real throne; to infuse life and vigour into the Church as the trainer of the nation by the revival of Convocation, then dumb, on a wide basis, and not, as has been since done, in the shape of a priestly section; to estabeen since done, in the shape of a priestly section; to establish a commercial code on the principles successfully negotiated by Lord Bolingbroke at Utrecht, and which, though baffled at the time by a Whig Parliament, were subsequently and triumphantly vindicated by his political pupil and heir, Mr. Pitt; to govern Ireland according to the policy of Charles I., and not of Oliver Cromwell; to emancipate the political constituency of 1832 from its sectarian bondage and contracted sympathies; to elevate the physical as well as the moral condition of the people by establishing as well as the moral condition of the people by establishing that labour required regulation as much as property, and all this rather by the use of ancient forms and the restoration this rather by the use of ancient forms and the restoration of the past than by political revolutions founded upon abstract ideas." In its way "Coningsby" was as great and as startling a success as "Vivian Grey." It has been very heartily abused; it has been praised almost as heartily. It has been condemned for relying for its attractiveness on the most ephemeral qualities, and it is still popular enough to yield a good income to its publishers. It is accused of personality, and in spite of the fact that the greater number of the persons satirised are dead, the caricatures survive. At this distance of time no harm can be done by recalling a few of those whose idiosyncracies are thus hit off. The hero is apparently intended for Lord Lyttelton, though other accounts ascribe the character to George Smythe; Rigby is said to have been intended for Mr. John Wilson Croker. Lord Monmouth, Coningsby's grandfather, is a faithful portrait-not in oil-of Lord Hert-

ford, while the Duke and Lord Henry Sidney stand respectively for the Duke of Rutland and Lord John Manners, Lucian Gay is Theodore Hook, and Mr. Gladstone significantly figures as Oswald Milbank. Lord and Lady Everingcantly figures as Oswald Milbank. Lord and Lady Everingham stand for the Earl and Countess of Clarendon; Lady St. Julian's for Lady Jersey, and the Duke and Duchess of Agincourt for the Duke and Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos. Taper and Tadpole are said on less authority to stand for Mr. Ross and Mr. Pringle, whose names were once familiar to the political world, but who are now forgotten. Every character in the novel has in short heart identified with some more or less well-known personage. been identified with some more or less well-known personage, but as a recent writer has observed, the "Keys to 'Coningsby'" are more curious than accurate.

"SYBIL" AND "TANCRED"

escaped the microscopic analysis to which "Vivian Grey" and "Coningsby" had been subjected. They were perhaps and "Coningsby" had been subjected. They were perhaps hardly less personal, but the personalities were more carefully veiled, or the critics had tired of the task of identifying them. "Sybil" is a story of singular power, and is full of those touches of higher art of which in some quarters the author is believed to be incapable. The accuracy of the story is avouched by the fact that the author made a special pilgrimage to the scenes of the Chartist disturbances, but its chief merit is derived from the evidence which it affords of chief merit is derived from the evidence which it affords of the writer's deep and sincere sympathy with the trials and sufferings of the poor. "Tancred" completes the trilogy. In "Coningsby" we have the picture of the aristocracy, in "Sybil" the actual working classes, and in "Tancred" the mystic influence of religion.

Whilst Mr. Disraeli was thus engaged in the pursuits of

literature his

BREACH WITH PEEL

had taken place. Lord Beaconsfield has been accused of personal motives in his change of attitude with regard to Sir Robert Peel, and is said to have attacked him because, when Peel constructed his Cabinet in 1841, he positively refused to include Mr. Disraeli amongst its members. It is just possible that this may be the case. The fact nevertheless remains that Peel's tergiversation had rendered it impossible for not a few of his warmest allies to act with him, and that, in thus rupturing the ties which bound them, Mr. Disraeli was acting in a manner perfectly consistent with all his previous professions. If any vindication of his consistency were necessary it might be found in the famous speech on the Repeal of the Corn Laws—a speech which fills twenty-six columns of Hansard, and occupied more than two hours in its delivery. There the Protectionist policy is fully expounded, and there also an overwhelming attack is made upon Peel. "Sir." said Mr. whelming attack is made upon Peel.



SIR ROBERT PEEL Born 1788; Died 1850

Disraeli, "the right hon gentleman has been accused of foregone treachery, of long-meditated deception. . . of always having intended to abandon the opinions by professing which he rose to power. Sir, I entirely acquit the right hon. gentleman of any such intention. I do it for this reason—that when I examine the career of this Minister, who has filled a great space in the Parliamentary history of this filled a great space in the Parliamentary history of this country, I find that for between thirty and forty years, from the days of Mr. Horner to the days of the hon, member for Stockport (Mr. Cobden), that right hon. gentlemen has traded on port (Mr. Cobden), that right hon, gentlemen has traded on the ideas and intelligence of others. His life has been one great Appropriation Clause. He is a burglar of others' intellect.

There is no statesman who has committed political petty larceny on so great a scale." Peel's reply was an insinuation about Lord Resconsfield equicity for effective that which

tion about Lord Beaconsfield's anxiety for office in 1841, which drew from him a distinct denial that he had ever asked for place in any way. He did not, indeed, say that he would not have taken office had it been offered, but he stated what is chairwish the foot that what was a said is obviously the fact, that whatever had been done and said had been the work of another gentleman, whom he supposed to be in the right hon. baronet's confidence.

During the six years which followed the repeal of the Corn Laws, Lord Beaconsfield's position became thoroughly consolidated. The Tory party was split into sections, and whilst Mr. Gladstone, who had been hailed by Macaulay ten years before as the rising hope of the "stern and unbending Tories", set in his let with Pool Mr. Disposit he rusted ally cast in his lot with Peel, Mr. Disraeli became the trusted ally of Lord George Bentinck, and the leader of the Protectionist party in the House of Commons. The alliance was of infinite service to him, and was commemorated after the untimely and mysterious death of the noble lord by the publication of a biography which, in spite of the critics, is probably the best of its kind in the English language. In 1847 the reward of so many years of labour came to Mr. Disraeli—he was for mally recognised as the

LEADER OF THE TORY PARTY,

And in that capacity was put up to express the views of the Opposition on the Address. No amendment was moved, but, in a luminous and most statesmanlike speech, Mr. Disraeli surveyed the foreign policy of the Government, and expressed the views of the party of which he was the head on the question of the Spanish Marriages, and the extinction of the free state of Cracow by Russia in violation of the Treaty of Vienna. For the rest of the Session, and indeed up to 1852, Mr. Disraeli played a part by no means conspicuous in the House of Commons. He showed himself a Protectionist indeed, but a Protectionist of a very moderate type, the keynote of his political economy being in effect that, however good and valuable Free Trade might be, it ought not to be a one-sided freedom, and that the producing classes of England should not be hampered by extraordinary privileges conferred on foreigners.

The year 1848 ended his career as member for Shrewsbury, for which borough he had been elected on his retirement from Maidstone. Thenceforward the Tory chief was

MEMBER FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

—A seat which he held almost without contest until his elevation to the Peerage. Parliament met in September, 1848, with all the din of Continental revolution and insurrectionary movements at home ringing in its ears. France had in part accomplished the third of her revolutions, and Louis Napoleon, whom Mr. Disraeli had with astonishing foresight hailed as Imperator (in a letter to Lady Blessington two years before), was already struggling for the lofty position which he afterwards obtained, though but to lose it at Sedan. At home the Chartists were preparing for war, and Irish disaffection, stimulated by the braggart patriotism of O'Connell and Smith O'Brien, and nourished by domestic miseries of no ordinary kind, seemed ready to break into flame. The misfortune of the country was that the Government was not strong enough for the place. The times were critical, and Lord John Russell was hardly statesman enough to meet them. His reliance was partly on the influence of the Manchester school of politicians, and partly on the prestige of the Whig families. It can hardly be a matter for wonder if such a Ministry should in spite of its numerical majorities have gradually melted away, especially when the Opposition to it was so brilliantly and so ably led. During this period Mr. Disraeli was mainly occupied in building up his own party, and in attacking the Manchester school.

The autumn of 1851 witnessed a

GENERAL DISRUPTION OF THE WILIG PARTY

Lord Palmerston, somewhat to the surprise of his friends, had consented to serve with Lord John Russell. The ultimate downfall of the Ministry, however, was less the result of its inherent weakness than of the circumstances connected with the retirement, or rather dismissal, of Lord Palmerston in the autumn of this year. The coup d'état of the 2nd December, 1851, had not been approved by our Government, but it appeared from the statements of Lord John Russell in the House at the opening of Parliament that Lord Palmerston had conveyed through Lord Normanby an assurance of the moral approval of Louis Napoleon's policy by England, upon which Lord John Russell had insisted upon and obtained his colleague's resignation. This was unquestionably the beginning of the end, but another cause was at work in the failure of Lord John Russell's Ecclesiastical Titles Bill—the off-shoot of his famous "Durham Letter" of the past year. The Ministry was in fact rapidly going to pieces, and all Lord John's efforts to maintain his hold upon the country failed. A week later a Ministerial crisis arose on the Militia Bill. The Government had brought in a Bill on this subject of a purely local character, and to such a limitation the House would in no wise submit. On a division on this point the Government was left in a minority of eleven, and Lord John Russell at once resigned.

LORD DERBY

Was therefore summoned by Her Majesty, and undertook the formation of a Ministry, which came into office in March. In point of ability this Government was essentially a strong one, but the wounds which Peel had inflicted on the Tory party were too deep to be healed so soon, and the seeds of discord were evidently planted when Lord Derby first expounded his policy in the Lords in February. Yet an Administration which included Lords Derby, Lonsdale, St. Leonard's, and Salisbury, the Duke of Northumberland, and Mr. Disraeli, might it was thought have held out longer than through one formation of a Ministry, which came into office in March. In might, it was thought, have held out longer than through one Session, especially when its first proposal was carried in so triumphant a manner. This was a Bill for the national defence by a militia enrolled on principles diametrically opposed to those of the late Government. The attention of the Government to matters of domestic legislation was also favourably received by the country, but the influence of the more extreme economists was thrown into the scale against the Administration. Mr. Disraeli, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, brought in his Budget on the 30th of April, and found it was generally approved, though the Whig organs assured the world that there was nothing in it but the propositions of the Free Traders foieted upon the country by sitions of the Free Traders foisted upon the country by a Protectionist Ministry. The prorogation came before the financial propositions of the Government had been completely discussed, and was immediately followed by a general election. Parliament reassembled in November, but the state of parties appeared to be little altered. The conflict was still in name between Free Trade and Protection, though Mr. Disraeli had very distinctly thrown over all idea of reimposing the duty on corn, and on those principles the proposals of the Government were submitted to the severest scrutiny. The debate lasted for four nights, and on the 16th December Mr. Disraeli rose to wind it up on behalf of the Government. His speech was masterly in its grasp of the subject, and displayed powers of dealing with detail of the very highest order, but it was unsuccessful in attaining its great object—the acceptance of the financial policy of the Government by the House. Mr. Disraeli evidently felt as much. The peroration of his speech is an eloquent and indignant refusal to adopt the suggestion of the coalition of the Whigs and Peelites, which then formed the main body of the Opposition, that he should alter his proposals. "I have been told," he said, "to withdraw my Budget. I was told that Mr. Pitt withdrew his Budget, and

that more recently other persons have done so too." (This, it may be noted, was a hit at Sir C. Wood, who had brought forward four Budgets in one year.) "Now I do not aspire to the fame of Mr. Pitt, but I will not submit to the degradation of others." And then in manly words, and without complaint, he described the Opposition as a coalition, and predicted that it would sooner or later become "the baseless fabric of a vision."

That THE COALITION

Was successful is a matter of history. That it lasted longer than Mr. Disraeli anticipated is equally certain. On the night to which we have referred Mr. Gladstone followed his rival with one of those objurgatory speeches in which he excels, and having scolded him through a page of "Hansard," set to work to demolish his finance. The result was seen in the division list. There was a strong whip on both sides, but the Government could muster only 286 supporters against 305 of their opponents. Lord Derby announced in the House of Lords on the following Monday the resignation of the Government, and Lord Aberdeen was "sent for." All the calculations of the Tory party had been disappointed. They had reckoned upon the support of the Irish brigade and of the independent members, which would together have sufficed to give them an absolute majority in the House of Commons. They had failed, and the consequence was that Coalition Cabinet, which, with a few modifications, carried the country into and out of the Crimean War, and kept the Tories in the cold shade of Opposition until 1858.

Opposition until 1858.

During his exile from office Lord Beaconsfield attended diligently in his place in the House. He allied himself with no faction, he gave a loyal and generous support to Lord Palmerston when patriotism required it, but when Dr. Browning had plunged the country into the costly and useless war about the Chinese lorcha, Arrow, Mr. Disraeli was one of the strongest opponents of the Ministry.

THE YEAR 1858

Opened somewhat gloomily. The country was only then recovering from the shock of the Indian Mutiny, following as it did close upon the heels of the Crimean War. Parliament had met in the autumn, and reassembled on the 4th of February. A few days before Paris had been the scene of a grievous crime—the Orsini conspiracy against the Emperor. The Paris press was particularly loud in its declamations against the perfidy of England in allowing conspirators to carry on their nefarious work upon her soil, and the French Government, by allowing these complaints to be reproduced in the Moniteur, appeared to countenance them. On one of the earliest nights of this Session Lord Palmerston had moved for leave to bring in a Bill



VISCOUNT PALMERSTON Born 1784; Died 1865

to amend the laws relating to conspiracy to murder, and the notoriously disturbed state of the public mind in France rendered the English public extremely sensitive on this subject. Suspicions were openly expressed in many quarters that the Government intended to sacrifice the dignity of this country to the demands of the French Government under the pretext of a reform of the law, and in spite of the fact that only some six years before a portion of the Press had cried out for a law of precisely this kind, the proposals of Lord Palmerston were from the outset extremely unpopular. On the introduction of the Bill, Mr. Disraeli expressed his On the introduction of the Bill, Mr. Disraeli expressed his opinion that the proposals of the Government were both clumsy and feeble, but at the same time he expressed his intention of voting for the measure, on the ground of its being a mark of national good-will towards France. By the time that it came on for its second reading public opinion on the subject had intensified itself in no common degree, and when Mr. Milner Gibson, with the support of all the more distinguished members on both sides of the House, moved its rejection, Mr. Disraeli found that he could, without inconsistency, support the motion. When he spoke on the former occasion France had to blame herself only for some acts of indiscretion for indiscretion, for which the Emperor had expressed his regret. Since that time the attitude of the French Government had become one of positive menace to England, and the position of the Government of this country was consequently, in his eyes, one of unworthy subserviency. Lord Palmerston in vain tried to stem the current; a division was called for, and the Government for the current is a division was called for and the Government for the current state. the Government found itself in a minority of 19 in a House of 449. Such an indication of popular feeling could not be evaded. Lord Palmerston at once resigned, and when the

the second transfer on the second of

House reassembled on the 1st of March, Mr. Disraeli once more took his seat on the Treasury Bench as

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Lord Derby was Premier; Lord Stanley (the present Earl Derby) had the Colonial Office, and Mr. Walpole the Home; Mr. Henley was at the Board of Trade; Sir Fitzroy Kelly was the Attorney-General, and Sir Hugh (now Lord) Cairns Solicitor-General. All the members of the Administration were comparatively unknown men, and displayed their appreciation of their position by abstaining from startling acts of legislation, and by efforts after administrative skill. Mr. Disraeli's budget was of an eminently practical and business-like type. The Income Tax then stood at 7d. in the pound; he reduced it to 5d., and expressed a strong hope that this impost—which Liberal financiers had described as most "unjust, unequal, and inquisitorial," and which was confessedly a war tax—might eventually be got rid of altogether. To supply the deficiency of revenue thus created he imposed the penny stamp on bankers' cheques, and equalised the duty on spirits, besides making some alterations in the arrangements relating to Exchequer Bills—proposals which even Mr. Gladstone approved. Next after the Budget the most important measure with which Mr. Disraeli was concerned in the Session of 1858 was the Bill for the future government of India. Lord Palmerston had made one attempt at legislation, and his Bill was still before the House. The Government measure(India Bill No. 2) was no more successful than its predecessor, and when the House met after the Easter recess it was evidently doomed. Almost without discussion, and certainly without any opposition from Mr. Disraeli, the House determined to proceed by resolution. The Cabinet accordingly drew up a series of fourteen resolutions, which were proposed by Mr. Disraeli, and which eventually formed the basis of the great measure by which the government of India was vested in the Crown.

THE SESSION OF 1859

Opened on the whole favourably for Ministers. The position of the Ministry was indeed far from being a secure one, but it had held its own during the preceding Session in a way which had surprised even its friends and supporters. The state of things was pretty much the same as when Mr. Disraeli and his colleagues came into office in 1852. On all sides there were signs of administrative and executive feebleness. When they retired they had certainly spent a considerable amount of money, but they left England strong where she had been weak, and respected by those who had despised her. Other causes were, however, at work to drive the Conservative party from office. The Liberal chiefs assumed that a further extension of the suffrage was necessary, and a

REFORM AGITATION

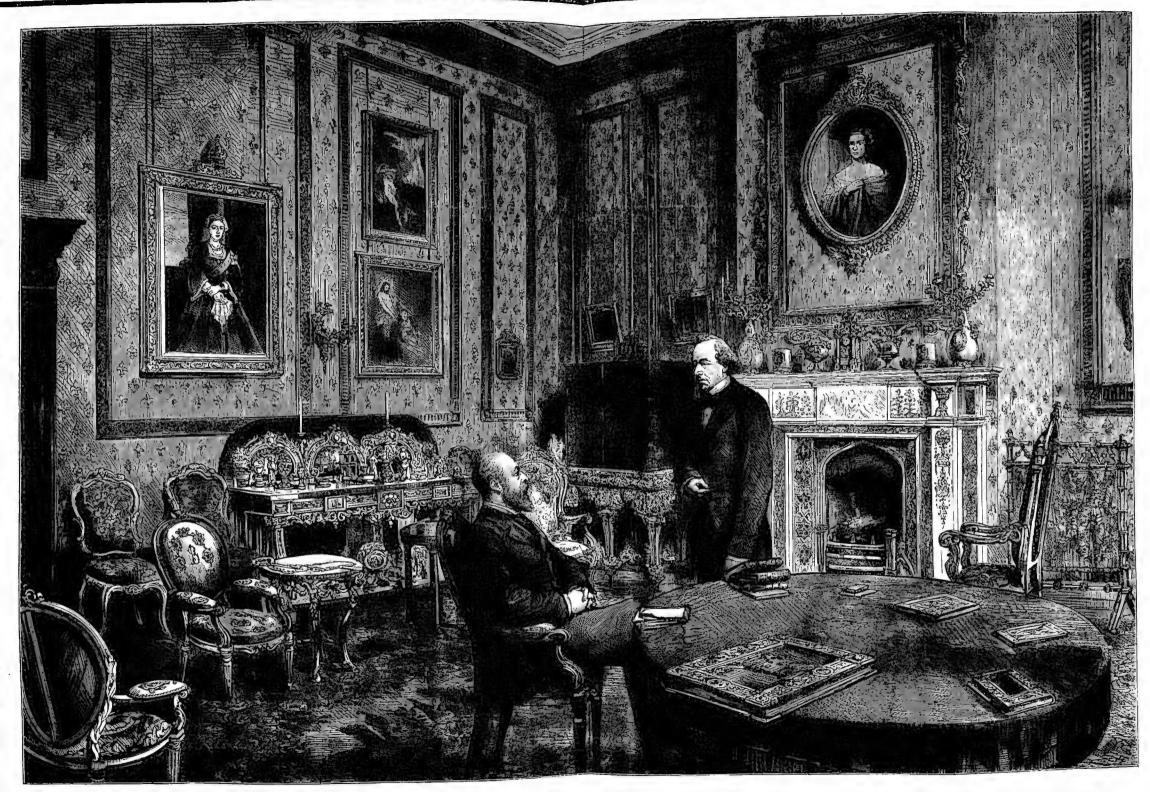
Had in consequence been going on for some time. Mr. Disraeli and his chief determined on making an attempt to end the agitation. On the last day of February Mr. Disraeli brought in his Bill, and it was at once felt that the fate of the Government was sealed. The Bill was not planned on the infallible system of counting heads, and of placing every elector upon a footing of perfect equality with his neighbour. Instead of this the Government proposed to give votes to an immense number of persons hitherto excluded from the franchise, and to make that privilege dependent upon such qualifications as the possession of 10% a year in the funds; 60% in the Government Savings' Bank; the receipt of a pension for naval, military, or civil services; a University degree; the fact of being a minister of religion, a member of a learned profession, or a schoolmaster. In the counties the qualification was to be reduced to a 10% franchise so as to place the rural and urban electors on the same footing.

THE SECOND READING

Came on upon the 21st of March, and the Debate was protracted over seven nights. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer came to sum up before the division he evidently felt that all was over. He defended his Bill, but with the air of one who leads a forlorn hope, and he closed his speech with a calm and dignified recapitulation of what Lord Derby and his colleagues had done for the country during their twelve months' tenure of office. The division which followed showed that the Opposition had a majority of 39 votes in one of the fullest Houses ever known.

A GENERAL ELECTION

Of course followed, but when Parliament reassembled it was or course followed, but when Farliament reassembled it was evident that the Ministry was doomed. No time was lost by the leaders of the Liberal party. The debate on the Address was made the occasion for testing the strength of parties in the House. An amendment was therefore moved by Lord Hartington, and seconded by Mr. Hanbury, which brought up Mr. Disraeli at once. He made a most luminous and brilliant speech in defence of the policy of the Government, but from the first he failed to carry the House with him, and when he sat down it was equally clear that the debate, it spite of the declared anxiety of the Opposition to avoid useless talking, had only begun. Three long nights were spent over this matter, and on the 10th of June, in a House of 613 members, the division was taken, with the result of leaving Ministers in a minority of 12. Flavor result of leaving Ministers in a minority of 13. Eleven days later the Chancellor of the Exchequer formally announced the resignation of himself and his colleagues, and Lord Palmerston took his seat on the Treasury Bench. The new Ministry, like that which Lord Derby had displaced at the beginning of the year, was a Coalition, and included amongst its members both Whigs and Peelites, as well as a small infusion of the more advanced Liberal element. Such as it was, however, it was strong enough to maintain its position with sundry changes for seven years-from 1859 to 1866. On that period it is unnecessary to dwell. Lord Beaconsfield continued to lead the Opposition, but made few speeches of importance, and carefully abstained from all appearance of factious hostility to the existing order of things. His principal efforts were by way of criticism of Mr. Gladstone's financial policy, and in opposition to the form of the commercial treaty with France negotiated by Mr. Cobden and Sir Louis Mallet.



THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD: VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO HUGHENDEN: IN THE DRAWING-ROOM, JANUARY, 1880

In the spring of 1860 Lord John Russell introduced his *REFORM BILL*,

which was based upon a 6th borough franchise. Mr. Disraeli moved the rejection of the Bill in a pungent speech, in which those who care to read between the lines may trace the germ of his own more successful proposals.

The question of Reform blocked the way of all legislation

The question of Reform blocked the way of all legislation for the next half-dozen years, and when the Session of 1866 opened the Queen's Speech announced that the Government



EARL RUSSELL Born 1792; Died 1873

of the day had prepared a measure, which was eventually brought forward by Mr. Gladstone on the 12th March. The principal features of the Bill were a 14t. county franchise; a borough franchise for every person who could show that he had had 50% in a Savings Bank for two years—on the principle of Mr. Disraeli's much-abused "fancy franchises," -a 7l. rental franchise, with provisions for the compound ouseholders and lodgers. Such a bill, it was obvious householders and lodgers. Such a bill, it was obvious from the first, must fail to satisfy the country, and no little time was wasted over discussions which were notoriously maintained by members who cared little, if anything, for the issue at stake. At last a stand was made upon a question of principle. The Government pinned its faith to a rental franchise, while the Opposition were as strenuous in their support of one based upon rating. An amendment to this effect was brought forward by Lord Dunkellin, and on a division the Government found itself in a minority of II. It was natural that such a defeat should be accepted by the Administration as the signal for retirement. The death of Lord Palmerston in October, 1865, had practically left the Cabinet of which he was chief without a head. Lord Russell resigned, and was succeeded by Lord Derby, who proceeded to form a very strong Government. Such names as those of Mr. Disraeli, Lords Stanley, Carnarvon, and Cranbourne (now the Marquis of Salisbury), General Peel, Sir John Pakington, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, and Sir Hugh (now Lord) Cairns would be a tower of strength to any Government, but it unfortunately happened that the general election of 1865 had given to the Liberal party a small accession of strength, and thus it came to pass that for the third time Mr. Disraeli found himself compelled to take office with a minority to support him in the popular assembly. Outside the House a set of unscrupulous agitators threw every difficulty in the way of good government, and when the Session closed it was with the echoes of the Hyde Park Riots ringing in the ears of a disturbed and uneasy people.

The agitation continued through the winter, and when

The agitation continued through the winter, and when Parliament met on the 5th of February, 1867, no one was surprised to find that a very prominent place in the Queen's Speech was occupied by the question of the

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

A week later Mr. Disraeli announced that the Government had determined to proceed by Resolution, and would not by bringing in a Bill make it one of those questions which should decide the fate of the Cabinet, for the simple reason that all parties had attempted to deal with it, and all had alike failed. As a matter of course he was bitterly assailed, members like Mr. Lowe and Mr. Bright forgetting their differences in their vehement opposition to the Government. To add to the perplexities of the Cabinet, three of its most able members, Lord Cranbourne, Lord Carnarvon, and General Peel, retired on this question, leaving the Ministry (which in this connexion meant Mr. Disraeli) to carry on the arduous work alone. The House having refused to follow the precedent of the India Bill and proceed by Resolution, a Bill embodying the substance of those offered by the Government at the opening of the Session was brought in. It is unnecessary to go into detail on this subject—suffice it to say that by dint of consummate generalship and judicious concession, by an unwavering courtesy, and by the acceptance of small amendments to which their proposers attached an overweening importance, Lord Beaconsfield suceeeded in getting that unhappy obstruction to practical legislative work out of the way, and in passing a practical measure.

in passing a practical measure.

Before the end of the Session the question of the

IRISH CHURCH

Loomed menningly in the future. Just as after the Reform Act of 1832 the Whigs, so to speak, monopolised Ircland, so now that a fresh arrangement of the franchise had been decided upon, they with their more advanced allies adopted the same tactics. All through the Long Vacation the excitement was kept up. Meetings were held throughout the country, and the utmost was made of the Fenian agitation in Ireland. Lord Russell helped on the movement by the pub-

lication of a pamphlet in February, 1868, in which he advocated the concurrent endowment of the Roman and Presbyterian Churches in Ireland and the reduction of the revenues of the Protestant Episcopal Church to one-eighth of their existing amount—an extension of the proposal which he had already made in the House of Lords. In the midst of all the difficulties thus springing up in the path of the Tory Government it received at the close of February what many persons considered its death blow, by the resignation of Lord Derby, in consequence of failing health. In announcing the fact in the House of Lords. Lord Malmesbury stated that Mr. Disraeli had received her Majesty's commands to form a Ministry, and accordingly on the 27th of February, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had an audience of the Queen, and kissed hands as

FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY

Sundry changes in the constitution of the Ministry were made, but the new Government had very little opportunity of showing what it could do, for on the 23rd of March Mr. Gladstone gave notice of his intention to move the famous three Resolutions on the Disestablishment of the Irish Church. The Government protested, and Lord Stanley moved an amendment to the effect that the question was one which ought to be reserved for the consideration of the new Parliament, but to no purpose. The debates commenced on the 30th of March, and were continued with more than common acrimony on both sides until the 3rd of April, when Mr. Gladstone's resolutions were affirmed by a majority of 56. The House went into Committee upon them; public excitement was stimulated to fever heat by meetings in favour of the resolutions, and for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the threatened Church. On the 8th of May, the Committee reported, and on the 13th Mr. Gladstone brought in his Bill, suspending for the time the exercise of patronage in the Irish Church. The Government, in spite of the enormous majority against it—a majority which used its power without much mercy in dealing with the Scotch and Irish Reform Bills—refused to abandon its position till it had an opportunity of appealing to the country, and as that appeal could not be made until the sister kingdoms had obtained the advantages of an extension of the franchise, Mr. Disraeli was compelled, sorely against his will, to carry on the Government by a minority. No other business was possible than that implied by these measures, and on the 31st of July Parliament rose. The Queen's Speech was read by the Lord Chancellor, and announced that the dissolution took place thus early in order to enable the country "to reap the benefit of the extended system of representation which the wisdom of Parliament had provided" at the earliest possible date.

By the end of November it was seen that the Liberal majority was more than double what it had been at the opening of the last Parliament, and on the 2nd of December the resignation of the Government was announced. Mr. Disraeli thus found himself once more in Opposition.

Relieved from the immediate cares of Government the Tory leader returned for a while to his first love, and produced after a long interval of silence

"LOTHAIR,"

The latest and certainly not the worst of his novels. "Lothair' was from the first an unusually successful novel, partly no doubt from the ease with which its readers fancied that they could identify the hero with a well-known Marquis of enormous wealth, who had recently joined the Church of Rome, and partly from the haste with which other so-called "personalities" were detected, but principally from the light which it cast upon its author's views of general politics. The point upon which he insists is the distrust and even aversion which he considers ought to be excited in the mind of every rational Englishman by the advance of the Roman Church and the growth of the Secret Societies. The heroine—Lady Corisande—very early in the story says to Lothair:—"I look on our nobility joining the Church of Rome as the greatest

Societies is equally clear. The author pays due homage to the purity of motive by which the leaders of the Revolution were animated. He has no reproach for Garibaldi; hardly even a word of severity for Felice Orsini; but he is none the less strenuous in his condemnation of those secret organisations by which the politics of Europe are complicated.

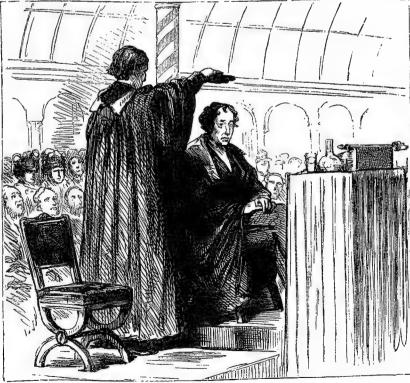
As time went on the

UNPOPULARITY OF THE MINISTRY

Of Mr. Gladstone increased, until about the beginning of 1872 it appeared to have reached its culminating point, especially in the North of England. In Lancashire and Cheshire the policy of the Tory party had indeed always been much more popular than was commonly believed, and opportunity was taken by the local party leaders to invite the chief of the Opposition to pay a visit to the Capital of Cotton for the purpose of expounding his views and policy. Mr. Disraeli accordingly visited Manchester, and encountered such a reception as seldom falls to the lot of a public man in this country. On arriving in the city on the afternoon of Easter Monday, he was welcomed by some thirty or forty thousand persons, chiefly working men, who filled the railway station, and lined the road from it to the house of Mr. Romaine Callender, afterwards the Conservative member for Manchester, in the outskirts of the town. The enthusiasm of the crowd was overwhelming. The horses were taken from the carriages and some hundreds of men took their places. On the Wednesday Mr. Disraeli delivered amidst the most astonishing enthusiasm one of the finest orations he ever uttered, to a crowded audience in the Free Trade Hall. The main point of the speech was to counsel patience to his followers, but the future policy of the Conservative party was also briefly indicated. "If I may venture to give such a hint," said the speaker, "let us take care not to allow ourselves to be made to any extent the tools of the ambition or of the discontent of extreme politicians on either side. I will tell you what I mean. It may very likely be the game of the Radical party to try and turn out the present Ministry if they can, and to put a Conservative Government in its place, that Conservative Government being in a minority, hoping that by so doing they shall be able to reconstruct their own party upon a new platform pledged to more extreme and more violent measures, and then to have a Cabinet formed of the most thorough-going Radicals. These may be their tactics, but just because it is their game it ought not to be ours."

THE SESSION OF 1873

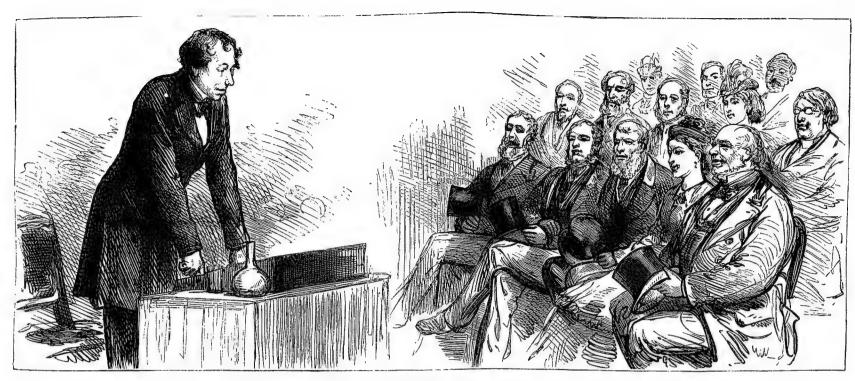
Opened with a Speech from the Throne, in which a prominent place was given to the question of Irish University Reform. When the Bill was introduced it was found to embody all the clauses to which objection had been taken on former occasions together with a few new ones, apparently designed to gratify the rapidly increasing ambition of the Irish Ultramontanes. Naturally such a proposal was received with the greatest possible dissatisfaction, not merely by the Conservative party, but by those advanced Liberals who are mainly solicitous to divorce Education from Religion. Of this latter party Professor Fawcett, until that time an earnest supporter of Mr. Gladstone, made himself the spokesman, and when, at two o'clock on the morning of the 12th April, the House divided on the second reading, the Government was left in a minority of three. The result was what might have been anticipated. At the morning sitting of the 13th Mr. Gladstone announced his resignation, while Mr. Disraeli, as he was entering the House, received a summons to Windsor. In his subsequent explanation he stated that he had expressed his readiness to form an Administration, but that in accordance with the views he had more than once expressed he would not attempt to do so with a House of Commons in which his party would be distinctly in a minority. In the end Mr. Gladstone was informed that the Opposition would not



MR, DISRAELI AT GLASGOW-CAPPING THE LORD RECTOR

calamity that has ever happened to England; irrespective of all religious considerations, on which I will not presume to touch. It is an abnegation of patriotism, and in this age, when all things are questioned, a love of our country seems to me the one sentiment to cling to." This may fairly be taken as the key note of the story as far as religion is concerned. In like manner the aim of "Lothair" with reference to the Secret

attempt to form a Government, thus throwing upon his shoulders the onus of the inevitable general election. A dissolution of Parliament at the close of the Session was consequently looked for on all sides. Mr. Gladstone and his supporters had been so bitter in their criticisms upon Mr. Disraeli's assumed unwillingness to go to the country in the spring that some difficulty was found in understanding the



GLASGOW — THE INAUGURAL DISRAELI AT ADDRESS MR.

delay on this occasion. The only feasible explanation appeared to be that the Liberal party had nothing upon which to go to the country besides the Irish University Bill, and were afraid to risk their existence upon so unpopular a pro-posal. Mr. Disraeli himself held his peace, only breaking silence in the month of October, when, on the occasion of the Bath election, he addressed a letter to Earl Grey de Wilton, in the course of which he said that "for nearly five years the present Ministers have harassed every trade, worried every profession, and assailed or menaced every Occasionally they have varied this state of civil warfare by perpetrating some job which outraged public opinion, or by stumbling into mistakes which have been always discreditable and sometimes ruinous." An attack always discreditable and sometimes ruinous." An attack of this kind naturally brought down a storm of vituperation on the head of the Tory chief, who, as usual, maintained a strict silence until he could speak with effect.

In November of this year he was chosen by the students of Glasgow University to fill the office of

LORD RECTOR

And received in that city a welcome second to none save to that which had been given to him by Manchester eighteen months before. The usual address to the students was wholly unpolitical in its character, and was such as might have been expected from a veteran littérateur.

Throughout the autumn and early winter the signs of an impending dissolution became more frequent. Changes in the Cabinet were numerous, and when towards the close of the year a batch of four new peers was announced it was felt that the beginning of the end had come. Nothing, however, was done until the 24th of January, 1874, when Mr. Gladstone, to the surprise of everybody, issued, an address to his constituents—which was first given to the world in the Sunday papers—announcing the immediate world in the Sunday papers—announcing the immediate dissolution of Parliament as the result of the Cabinet Council of the day before, and promising to abolish the Income Tax. Mr. Disraeli's address to the electors of Buckinghamshire appeared two days later, and struck the key-note of the innumerable election addresses which were forthwith issued all ever the country.

THE GENERAL ELECTION OF 1874

Was carried on with unusual vehemence, but on all sides it was evident from the first that the sympathies of the country were on the side of Mr. Disraeli. For the first time in his life he found himself in the position of a really popular leader, and that without having sacrificed one lota of principle, or deviated from the programme which he had laid down for himself at the commencement of his long political career. His election speeches were lively and vigorous, and as we glance over them after an interval of more than six years we see that they are full of the consciousness of approaching triumph. In the hour of victory the latent humour breaks out. For that hour came at last. The struggle which began in 1832 ended with the General Election of 1874. On the 7th of February, without waiting for the reassembling of the new Parliament, Mr. Gladstone gave up the seals of office, and Mr. Disraeli became once more

PRIME MINISTER.

But this time with a majority of more than fifty at his back. For two years he led the House of Commons with consummate tact and discretion. In nothing were these qualities more effectively displayed than in the debates on the measure by which he formally confirmed the assumption by the Queen of the title of

EMPRESS OF INDIA.

On those discussions it is now impossible to look back without some sense of shame and humiliation that party feeling should have led the Liberal leaders to oppose in the way they did this very simple business. That the Queen had been de facto Empress of India from the time of passing the India Act of 1859 everybody know. So thoroughly indeed was the fact understood, that, as afterwards came out in the course of Parliamentary debate, the Duke of Argyll himself had when holding the office of Indian Secretary recalled a telegram in order that he might insert the title of Her Majesty as "Empress of India." Under such circumstances, a statesman less careful of constitutional forms than

Lord Beaconsfield might have been held excused had he followed the example of his predecessor in the matter of Army Purchase and decreed the assumption of the new title by a stroke of the pen. He chose instead to proceed according to constitutional precedent, and the change was formally submitted to the Legislature. In the course of the discussions to which the Bill gave rise a great deal was said about "Imperialism," and about the autocratic proclivities of Lord Beaconsfield—charges to which some of his rivals have on many occasions laid themselves open in a much more decided manner-while something also was uttered by Mr. Lowe (now Lord Sherbrooke) concerning Lord Beaconsfield's unworthy subserviency which gave rise to a good deal of very unpleasant feeling. In the end, the tact, patience and temper of the Premier triumphed over the difficulties of the situation, and the Queen having assumed her new title of Wales on his famous journey through India. The Durbar so gorgeously illustrated by Mr. Prinsep in last year's Academy, was, it is understood, the joint idea of Lords Lytton and Beaconsfield, and was intended as the realisation. of the idea to which the latter gave utterance in the course of his speech on the Indian Mutiny, when he counselled the Government of the day " to tell the people of India that the relations between them and their real ruler and sovereign Queen Victoria shall be drawn nearer," and when he remarked that "you can only act upon the opinion of Eastern nations through their imagination." The

TOUR OF THE PRINCE OF WALES

Throughout the Indian Empire has generally been understood to be wholly due to the initiative of Lord Beaconsfield, and successful though the Durbar was in impressing the imaginations of the native races and their chieftains with the power of their newly proclaimed Empress, there can be little question that the personal contact of the future Emperor with his vassals did more than anything else to strengthen the loyalty and deepen the attachment of the people of India to the British Crown than anything else that the wit of man could have devised.

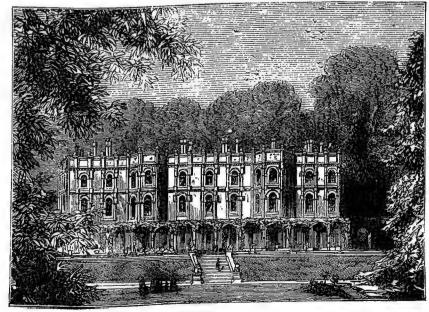
In his administration at home Lord Beaconsfield was not less successful. His wonderful knowledge of human nature —a knowledge exhibited not less in his novels than in the events of life—had enabled him to gather around him a body of Ministers many of the life. of Ministers, many of whom were wholly new to official life,

while the late hours of the House told upon his health. No one was therefore greatly surprised when it was announced at the close of the Session of 1876 that, although retaining his place as First Minister of the Crown, the House of Commons would know him no more, and that resigning the leadership of that House to Sir Stafford Northcote, he would take his place as Lord Privy Seal in the Upper Chamber. The title of

EARL OF BEACONSFIELD AND VISCOUNT HUGHENDEN

Which he adopted was in every way appropriate. All his life long he had loved the "county of statesmen," and his speeches to his constituents have seldom failed to contain allusions to its greatness and to the associations bound up with it. The former title had, too, a special attractiveness in it that it had been borne during the last few years of her life by her whom he once described as "the most severe of critics, but a perfect wife," whilst the latter was specially appropriate from the fact that Hughenden Manor had been

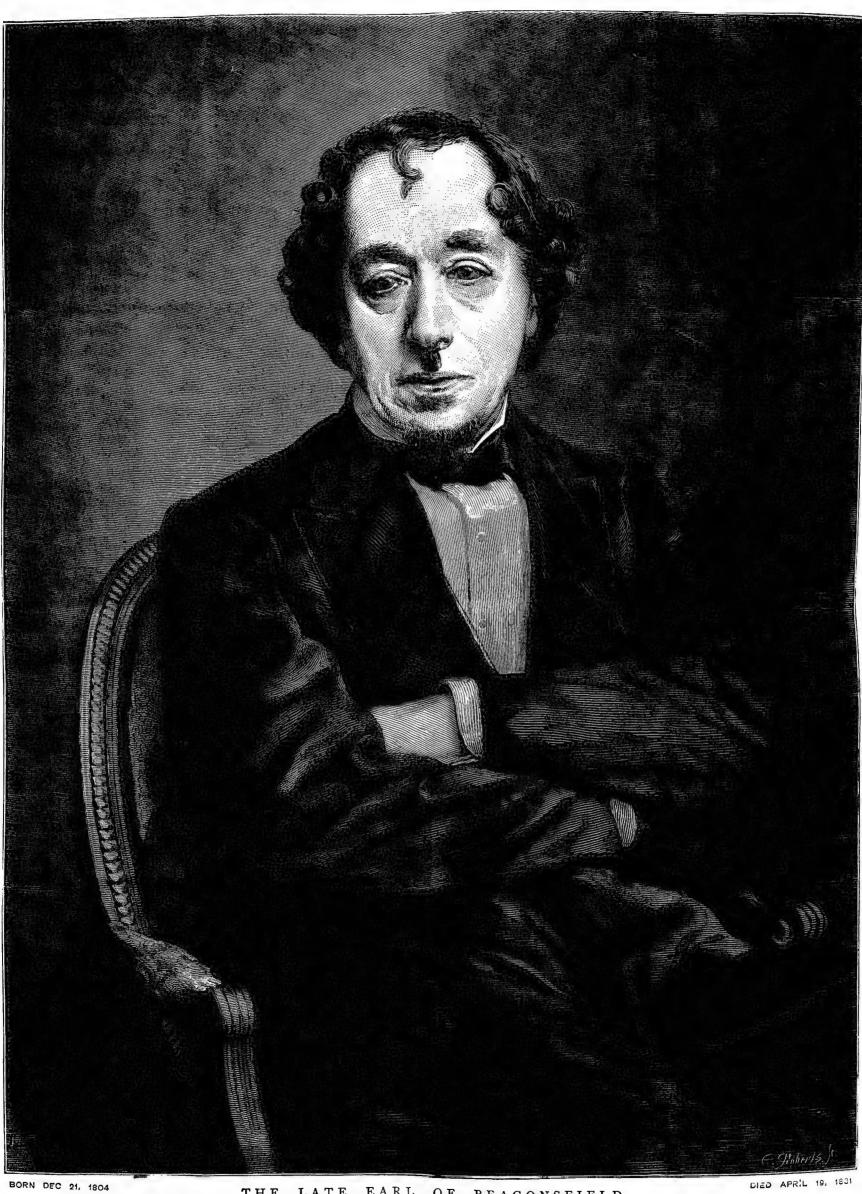
Although retired to the comparative seclusion of the Upper House, Lord Beaconsfield has exercised a very visible influence over the conduct of affairs in the Lower. His lieutenants there have seconded him with rare ability and devotion, and the result is to be seen in the fact that although opposed with a factiousness and an unfairness for which it would be hard to find a parallel in the history of party, the position of the Government was actually stronger after five years of office, than it was on the day when for the first time in his life the First Minister of the Crown found himself in office with a sufficient majority. Into the details of his policy on the Eastern Question it is not necessary now to enter. The facts have been too recently before the world to need any elaborate recapitulation. It will suffice, therefore to remind the reader that when the Session of 1876 was rapidly waning the news of the severities used in the suppression of the Bulgarian insurrection reached this country. The stories told were unquestionably years torrible The stories told were unquestionably very terrible, and they were forthwith taken up by certain impulsive politicians, who accepted the wildest tales as veritable gospel, and who denounced the more cautious Minister as the incarnation of all that was heartless and insensible, because he supported the servants of the Crown, and refused to alter the



HUGHENDEN MANOR

but all of whom have by what they have done since their appointment fully approved his choice. The fatigues of leadership, however, told upon him considerably. It might be possible to withstand the direct attacks of opponents, but the tactics of the Opposition wearied and disgusted him,

policy of the Empire at the orders of a statesman out of office, and of one or two energetic newspaper correspondents attached to the opposite party. For a while all the old and undeserved unpopularity of the great chief of the Tories seemed to have returned. On all hands his name was coupled



THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD

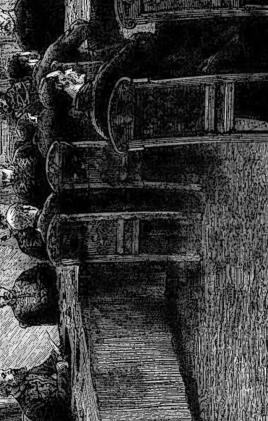
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BEACONSFIELD OF EARL LATE THE





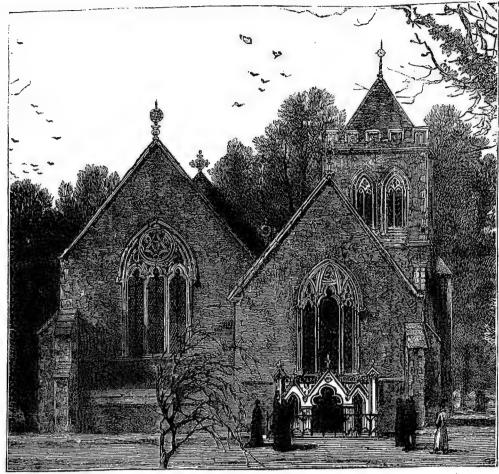




THE FIRST SITTING OF THE BERLIN CONGRESS, JUNE 17, 1878

with disparaging epithets and his personal character assailed with the grossest calumny. Even the journals of his own party—confessedly not the most intelligent organs of public opinion in existence—wavered in their allegiance, and when he announced plainly that the "interests of England" held

greatest treaty since the Peace of Utrecht—a Treaty which assures the interests of England in the Ottoman Empire, which provides for the safety and good government of the Christian subjects of the Porte, and which guarantees, as never has been guaranteed before, our Indian Empire against



HUGHENDEN CHURCH

the first place in his mind, there was a general outcry against his insensibility to the enthusiasm of humanity. Gradually, but certainly, however, public opinion veered in the direction of the statesman who has best in this century exemplified the truth of Mr. Carlyle's favourite proposition that if "speech is silvern silence is golden." Without any striving or crying out, without any public meetings or letters to the journals, or post cards to anxious constituents, Lord Beaconsfield succeeded in winning the people of this country over to his side. By a policy equally bold and prudent, he secured the support of the nation, and when the prospects of an amicable settlement of existing difficulties appeared to be darkest, he took a step which drove from his side the two weakest members of his Cabinet, and left him free to pursue the courageous line of action which has given to this country the

Russian aggression. His Knighthood of the Garter was honourably earned.

THE TREATY OF BERLIN

Was the culminating point of the career of the noble Earl. In the unanimous voice of the nation he was pronounced to have accomplished a task of unprecedented difficulty in the face of all but overwhelming obstacles. Faction at home prevented it from attaining the completeness which it might otherwise have had, but enough was left to make it a diplomatic triumph. In one respect it was invaluable. Mr. Gladstone, several years before had, in a moment of phil-Hellenic enthusiasm, sacrificed the command of the Levant which this country enjoyed by virtue of her Protectorate of the

Ionian Islands. That piece of quixotic statesmanship thought-ful Englishmen had never ceased to deplore, and in view of the new combinations created by the opening of the Suez Canal a strong feeling had sprung up, that since the Ionian Islands could not be resumed compensation for their loss must be sought in other directions. The Berlin Treaty offered an opportunity for obtaining a strong place of arms for the protection of the approaches to our Indian Empire, and of that opportunity Lord Beaconsfield availed himself with consummate skill. The

CESSION OF CYPRUS

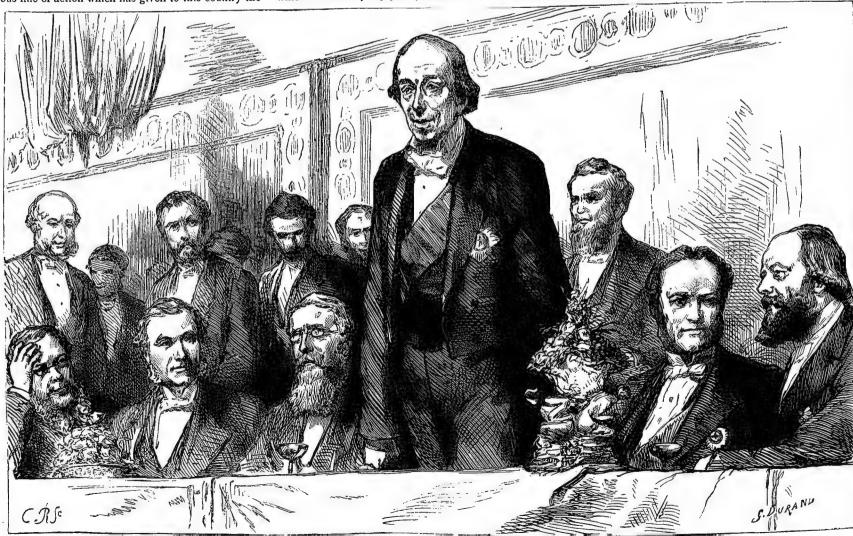
Was by no means one of the least important achievements of the Berlin negotiations, and although since that Treaty was ratified, it has pleased certain not too scrupulous controversialists to describe the arrangement by which that step was carried out as an "insane Convention," those same ardent politicians have since been compelled by the force of circumstances to adopt it, and have defended it on the very principles enunciated by Lord Beaconsfield. For the present at all events there seems to be little reason for fearing that the one advantage which England allowed herself to take in return for the six millions expended by her in preserving the peace of Europe, will be abandoned even at the bidding of the modern apostles of sentimental politics.

Whilst matters were being quietly and peaceably settled in Europe, clouds were rising in other quarters. The advance of Russia in Central Asia had gone on for several years almost without check until her armies were dangerously near to the frontiers of the quasi-neutral state of Afghanistan. There it was notorious that Russian intrigues were busily engaged in counteracting the influence of the English Government with the Ameer, and the consequence was the series of operations which ended with the murder of Sir Louis Cavignari and his suite, and with that military advance which under the able generalship of Sir Frederick Roberts left this country master of the whole of the Afghan State and powerful to check the advance of Russia upon our Indian frontiers. This is neither the place nor the time to enter upon a discussion of the causes or of the effects of the

AFGHAN WAR

All that is necessary to say here is that before the spring of 1879 had shown itself in this country the question was practically settled, and all danger from the advance of the Russian forces was at an end. The bold and skilful diplomacy of which Lord Beaconsfield held the strings had checkmated the mendacious policy of Russia, and had left the Empress of India mistress of the situation. If matters look a little less promising at the present moment it cannot be said that the fault lies with the statesman whose death the nation now mourns.

In South Africa somewhat similar difficulties beset the English Government. The curse of that continent, as Dr. Livingstone pointed out more than a century ago, is the existence of slavery as a domestic institution. Amongst those of the native soverigns who practised it, and who profited by it, the Sultan of Zanzibar was the most powerful and the most obstinate. With that tact in the discernment of the right man for the right place, which has so often been remarked upon as especially characteristic of Lord Beaconsfield, he selected Sir Bartle Frere—no adherent of his own so far as politics are concerned by the way—to negotiate a treaty for the total suppression of this odious traffic. That task accomplished, Sir Bartle Frere was transferred to Natal with exceptional powers—thanks to his exercise of which—



THE CARLTON CLUB BANQUET TO LORD BEACONSFIELD, JULY 27, 1878

"Which do you believe most likely to enter into an insane Convention, a body of English gentlemen honoured by the favour of their Sovereign and the confidence of their fellow-subjects, managing your affairs for five years, I hope with prudence, and not altogether without success; or a sophistical rhetorician, inebriated with the exuberance of his own verbosity, and gifted with an egotistical imagination that can at all times command an interminable and inconsistent series of arguments to malign an opponent and to glorify himself?"

whether discreet or indiscreet history must judge—the colony was speedily involved in an armed conflict with the warlike was specially and courageous Zulu tribes. The news of one terrible and courageous Zuit tilbes. The head of one terrible catastrophe to the British arms at Isandlwhana was all that was necessary to arouse the courageous spirit of the stateswas necessary to arouse the courageous spirit of the statesman who then presided over the counsels of the nation, and troops were forthwith dispatched in sufficient numbers to make victory certain without needless loss of life. Cetewayo was captured, his forces were dispersed, and the war was

brought to an honourable conclusion.

In the mean while, however, other difficulties had been preparing. The Dutch Boers—an interesting race of semicivilised slave holders, whose greatest merit appears to be that they are descended from certain Dutch and French that they are descended from certain Dutch and French Protestants—were quarrelling amongst themselves and on the verge of civil war. Their state was in a condition of semi-anarchy, and of total bankruptcy. Under these circumstances an appeal was made to the authorities of Natal, and as a consequence Mr. (now Sir) Theophilus Shepstone was dispatched to the Dutch territory. Once arrived there he found a general disposition to accept the protection of the British Empire, and accordingly with the not very alarming force of some five and twenty policemen he hoisted the British flag in the capital of the Transvaal, and proclaimed it a British colony. His action in this matter was not as a matter of fact disapproved by any party at home at the time, though it was notorious that Lord Beaconsfield was not by any means anxious to enter upon "equivocal and entangling engagements" which promised Beaconsneid was not by any means anxious to enter upon "equivocal and entangling engagements" which promised more trouble and expense than corresponding advantage. With his usual loyalty to his colleagues, however, he accepted the situation, and withdrew none of his confidence from the administrators to whose action these two difficulties were due. But the time was coming when he was to find out the kind of opposition with which he really had to deal. There was no real and open parliamentary criticism of the policy which the Government had found it necessary to adopt during the Parliamentary Session of 1879, but in the winter of that year Mr. Gladstone, who had received a somewhat rough intimation by the election of Mr. Boord as his colleague in the representation of Greenwich that his seat was not safe, began a stumping tour in Mid-Lothian, the constituency by whose favour he sits. In the course of that journey of excited oratory Lord Beaconsfield was accused of every crime and misdemeanour of which a statesman could be guilty, and every act of his administration of the affairs of this country was stigmatised in terms of which their author is probably at this moment somewhat ashamed. The tour produced its effects, however, and when the Session of tour produced its effects, however, and when the Session of 1880 opened there was a general anticipation that the Dissolution could not much longer delayed. There was indeed no reason why the House of Commons elected in 1874 should not have served its full term. The majority in favour of the Government was undiminished, and outside the walls of the house there appeared to be no diminution. the walls of the house there appeared to be no diminution of confidence, save in the somewhat ardent organs of the extreme section of the Opposition.

THE SESSION OF 1880

Opened with every promise of good work. The Queen's Speech was cheerful: there was no hint of difficulty, and the rectant restoration of peace in Zululand and in Afghanican the culture of peace in Zululand and in Afghanican the culture of the cul istan, the quiet in the East, and the comparatively placidthough distressed—condition of Ireland all tended to create the belief that Parliament would run its legal course and die of old age in an orthodox way. During the early weeks of the Session, however, as it would now appear, the news received by the authorities from Ireland had been somewhat disquieting. As we now know the unprincipled somewhat disquieting. As we now know, the unprincipled agitators of American Irish origin took advantage of the distress created by two successive bad harvests to stir up the ignorant and excitable peasantry to rebellion, and to create something approaching to a reign of terror amongst them. As a result Lord Beaconsfield thought it as well at

APPEAL TO THE COUNTRY

In order to strengthen the hands of the Irish Executive The letter in which this appeal was made was nominally addressed to the Duke of Marlborough, and was forthwith made the occasion of more bad jesting and forced hilarity than any similar document of modern times. Lord Beaconsfield was called an alarmist in every tone of contempt and rebuke; he was assured that, thanks to Mr. Gladstone's beneficent Church and Land Legislation of 1869 and 1870 (and not, of course, to the statesmanship of Lord Beaconsfield and his lieutenant, the Duke of Marlborough), the Sister Isle was more peaceable than it had been for twenty years, with a variety of things of the same kind. The result is too fresh to require recalling. By one of those accidental turns in the course of affairs to which constituencies constructed of such very mixed materials as those of this country are peculiarly liable, the "ins" went out and the "outs" went in, Mr. Gladstone assuming the place of his rival by an enormous majority. It is not now that the question can be discussed of how far the decision of the country has been justified or how far the events of the last twelve months have confirmed the vaticinations of the great statesman whose loss every genuine Englishman must mourn to-day. Our duty is to record the fact of his

RETIREMENT,

Which was a somewhat more practical and genial affair than might have been anticipated. With that cheerful stoicism which was a part of his nature, it is recorded that the only remark he made when the majority against him at the polls was reported was to the effect that he "should see the roses bloom at Hughenden for the first time." He kept his word. During the last twelve months he has been comparatively little in London, but his time has not been unpleasantly occupied. For a man of his temper it was impossible to be always quarrelling with destiny or gibing at his opponents. He devoted himself therefore to those pleasures of literature of which his father wrote so much, and early in the present produced his last and certainly not his

"ENDYMION"

The book has been praised and blamed —as usual in a somewhat excessive degree by the partisans of both sides—but at the edge of the grave of so great a statesman the mourner cannot stay to consider whether the amusement of the enforced leisure of his old age is or is not quite equal in point of literary power to the productions of his more than ordinarily brilliant youth.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

During the last twelve months Lord Beaconsfield's appearance have not been frequent, but when he did appear he spoke with all his old power and energy. His last political oration was on the cession of Candahar, and was full of that playful sarcasm and of all those graces of Parliamentary oratory of which of late years he seems to have had almost a monopoly. On the occasion of the assassination of the Emperor of Russia he spoke with both force and feeling, and it is worthy of remark as an instance of the indomitable energy and vast reserve of mental force in the venerable statesman that one of the last occupations which engaged him before advancing weakness finally subdued him was the correction for "Hansard" of the proofs of that oration.

HIS LAST ILLNESS

From the first threatened to have the most serious results. His friends, however, hoped against hope, and for the time, in spite of the terrible east winds of this unusually tardy spring, there seemed to be some reason to believe that he might yet again take his place in the great Council of the Nation to which he had given his life. It was not so to be, and after an illness of little more than three weeks he has passed painlessly and peacefully into the Silent Land. There is something at once agreeable and pathetic in the knowledge that he died with his right hand clasped in the affectionate grasp of his attached friends, Lords Rowton and Barrington. But there are millions of sad and anxious hearts—even amongst those of his countrymen with whom he had no personal relations—which are grieving to-day by the bier of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, and ex-Premier of FRANCIS HITCHMAN England.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE AUTHOR OF "VIVIAN GREY"

Is a reproduction of one of Maclise's famous portrait-sketches Is a reproduction of one of Maclise's famous portrait-sketches which appeared in Fraser's Ilagrazine between 1830 and 1838, under the title, "Gallery of Illustrious Literary Characters," The original drawings are now in the South Kensington Museum. The letterpress of this famous series was written by Dr. Maginn, who, curiously enough does not shine in his description of this particular portrait. The following passage, however, added after some rather feeble doggrel rhyme, printed as prose, is worth quoting:—
"He could not follow a more honourable example in life or in letters than the old Curiosity of Literature (Isaac Disraeli); and we trust that as there is stuff, and good stuff, in Ben, he will show those who think well of his talent that he can do what they wish to see him attempting."

see him attempting.

THE RESIDENCE AT HUGHENDEN, AND THE VISITS OF HER MAJESTY AND THE PRINCE OF WALES

THE entrance of Hughenden Manor is on the north side, and overlooks a beautifully wooded park, known as the "German Forest," whose solitude is broken only by the screech of the royal peacock. The Library is on the south side of the mansion, the peacock. The Library is on the south side of the mansion, the windows looking on to a very handsome terrace, tastefully ornamented with statuary, and commanding extensive views of the Wycombe Valley. This terrace was the favourite walk of the Earl, and it was on the lawn in front of it that Her Majesty planted a tree, on her visit in December, 1877, which, though announced to be "private," was made the occasion of much rejoicing and decorating by the good citizens of High Wycombe. The Queen, who remained at Hughenden two hours, and lunched with Lord Beaconsfield, was accompanied by Princess Beatrice, who also planted a tree in commemoration of the visit. We believe that Her Majesty had only twice before visited her Prime Ministers: Lord Melbourne at Brocket Hall in 1841, and Sir Robert Peel at Drayton Manor in at Brocket Hall in 1841, and Sir Robert Peel at Drayton Manor in

at Brocket Hall in 1841, and Sir Robert reet at 2.3, 1843.

The visit of the Prince of Wales took place on January 12th last year, on which occasion His Royal Highness dined with the Earl, and remained his guest until the afternoon of the next day, when he returned to town. The Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Rosslyn, Sir W. Hart-Dyke, and Mr. Bernal Osborne, were also guests at Hughenden during the stay of the Prince, who was attended by Colonel Teesdale, and who, following the example of his Royal relatives, planted a tree on the lawn.

With reference to our engraving of Lord Beaconsfield's drawing-room, it is only needful to call attention to the magnificence of the furniture and decorations; and to note that the portrait over the

room, it is only needful to call attention to the magnificence of the furniture and decorations; and to note that the portrait over the mantelpiece is that of the late Lady Beaconsfield, whilst that of the Queen, which hangs on the left, is the one presented by Her Majesty to Lord Beaconsfield on his seventieth birthday.—The engravings of the residence at Hughenden, and of the drawing-room and library, are from photographs by J. P. Starling, 3, Oxford Street, High Wycombe.

VISCOUNTESS BEACONSFIELD

THE Right Honourable Mary Anne Disraeli, Viscountess Beaconsfield, of Beaconsfield, in the County of Bucks, a peeress in Beaconsfield, of Beaconsfield, in the County of Bucks, a peeress in her own right, was the only daughter of Captain John Viney Evans, R.N., of Brampford Speke, Devonshire, and niece of the late General Sir James Viney, K.C.B., C.B., of Taynton Manor, Gloucestershire, whose heir-at-law she became. Her ladyship was married, firstly, in 1815, to Wyndham Lewis, Esq., M.P., of Greenmeadow, Glamorganshire, who died, without leaving issue, in March, 1838; and, secondly, in September, 1839, to the late Earl, then plain Mr. Disraeli, and M.P. for Maidstone. The union proved a happy one, and the noble lord often testified openly to the warmth and depth of his feeling for his wife. He dedicated his novel "Sybil" to her in graceful words. Again, in a public speech at Edinburgh, in 1867, he spoke of his partner as "that gracious lady to whom he owed so much of the happiness and success of his life," and when Her Majesty, in 1868, raised Mrs. Disraeli to the peerage, it was felt that she could not have bestowed an honour more likely to be appreciated by her husband. After a protracted illness, she died on Sunday, the 15th December, 1872, and was buried in the family vault in Hughenden Church. The funeral was touching in its simplicity, differing little from a humble village ceremony; and though the weather was very wet, Mr. Disraeli walked bareheaded through the rain to the vault.—Our engraving is from a portrait which Mr. Disraeli kindly allowed us to copy at the time.

VISIT TO GLASGOW

THE ceremony of industing the new Lord Rector took place in THE ceremony of inducting the new Lord Rector took place in a large and very beautiful conservatory, which a public-spirited citizen of Glasgow, named Kibble, had recently presented to his fellow-townsmen. A crowd assembled at a very early hour at the entrance of the Kibble Palace. At eleven o'clock the doors were opened, the University Professors showed the audience to their seats, and everything went on quietly till the arrival of the students, who, all arrayed in scarlet gowns, soon made matters lively after the Oxford Commemoration fashion. Just after twelve, Mr. Disraeli made his appearance, and after a Latin prayer, matters lively after the Oxford Commemoration fashion. Just after twelve, Mr. Disraeli made his appearance, and after a Latin prayer, and the conferring of several degrees, he was duly capped and loudly cheered. On the front of the platform at the east end of the hall was a high desk draped with pink. Here the Lord Rector stood, and delivered his address. His voice was clear and distinct, as resonant in the last sentence of the address as in the first, and his reservice was restricted by the strength of the control of the strength of th reception was most hearty and enthusiastic.

THE BERLIN CONGRESS

OUR engraving represents the first sitting of this august assem-lage, which took place on June 13, 1878. The sittings were held blage, which took place on June 13, 1878. The sittings were held in the Radzivill Palace (Prince Bismarck's official residence), one of the largest saloons having been handsomely fitted up for the occasion. At the top of the horseshoe table sits the President, Prince Bismarck, withhis co-German Plenipotentiaries, Prince Hohenlohe Schillingfürst, withhisco-German Plenipotentiaries, Prince Hohenlohe Schillingfürst, and Herr von Bülow, and the Secretary, Herr von Radowitz, facing him. On the President's right sit the Austrian Plenipotentiaries, Count Andrassy, Count Karolyi, and Baron Haymerle. Next to them sit the representatives of Britain, Lord Beaconsfield, Lord Salisbury, and Lord Odo Russell; and then comes Russia, with Prince Gortschakoff, Count Schouvaloff, and Baron d'Oubril. On Prince Bismarck's left sit M. Waddington, and the Comte de St. Vallier, representing France; next Count Corti, and Count Launay, representing Italy; and, finally, Turkey with three Plenipotentiaries, only one of whom, however, Sadoullah Bey, was present on this occasion, his two colleagues, Carathéodori Pasha and Mehemet Ali Pasha, not having arrived in consequence of their vessel being delayed by a storm in the Black Sea. In addition to the Secretary, Herr von Radowitz, there were three other Secretaries present, Herr Bucher, Radowitz, there were three other Secretaries present, Herr Bucher, Count Herbert Bismarck, and a Frenchman, M. de Mouy. These Secretaries sat at the bottom of the table, and are shown with their Secretaries sat at the bottom of the table, and are shown with their backs to the spectator. On the occasion represented the Plenipotentiaries were in full diplomatic uniform, excepting Prince Bismarck, who retained his military attire. On one side of the hall a room was set apart for the Plenipotentiaries' secretaries and staffs of specialists well versed in geography and ethnography, so that any information regarding the countries under discussion could be at once obtained. There were also two conference rooms to which members might withdraw for private consultation.

THE ARRIVAL FROM BERLIN

NOTHING could have been heartier or more triumphant than the reception accorded to England's Plenipotentiaries on their return from the Congress at Berlin. There had been a preliminary ceremony at Dover. But this was as nothing to the ovation which awaited them the Congress at Berlin. There had been a preliminary ceremony at Dover. But this was as nothing to the ovation which awaited them at Charing Cross. That portion of the platform into which the special train ran had been transformed into a huge conservatory. Upon a number of raised seats were assembled a brilliant company, whilst outside the station, in the Strand, Trafalgar Square, and Whitehall, the eager and expectant crowd thronged the roadway and pavement. The Premier on alighting was quickly surrounded by his colleagues in the Cabinet and other statesmen, the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and a number of ladies, all pressing forward for the honour of shaking hands with him; the rest of the spectators giving vent to their enthusiasm by repeated cheering. The first greetings and congratulations over, Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury took their seats in an open carriage, with the Marchioness of Abergavenny and Lady Northcote. No sooner did they appear outside the station than a roar of applause ascended from the crowded street, and a perfect shower of bouquets came from the windows. The cheering and waving of hats and handkerchiefs was continued all along the short line of route to the oficial residence in Downing Street, and after they had disappeared within doors was kept up with equal vigour until Lord Beaconsfield was seen at his drawing-room window, when there was a fresh burst of applause, and he had to wait a couple of minutes before attempting to make himself heard. At last the voice of the Premier was heard assuring his admirers that such a recognition of his labours was most agreeable to his feelings. Lord Salisbury and himself had brought back a peace, he hoped with honour, which would satisfy the Sovereign and gratify the country.

On July 27, 1878, a complimentary banquet was given to Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury by the members of the Carlton Club, on which occasion the late Earl made one of his most remarkable speeches, defending his policy and inveighing against Mr. Gladstone's criticisms in

The portraits of Sir Robert Peel, Lord Palmerston, and Earl Russell, and the engravings representing a meeting of the Carlton Club and the Church at Hughenden, require no special explanation.

-With regard to the illustrations in this Supplement, we should state that they have appeared in the ordinary issues of the Graphic at various times during the past few years.

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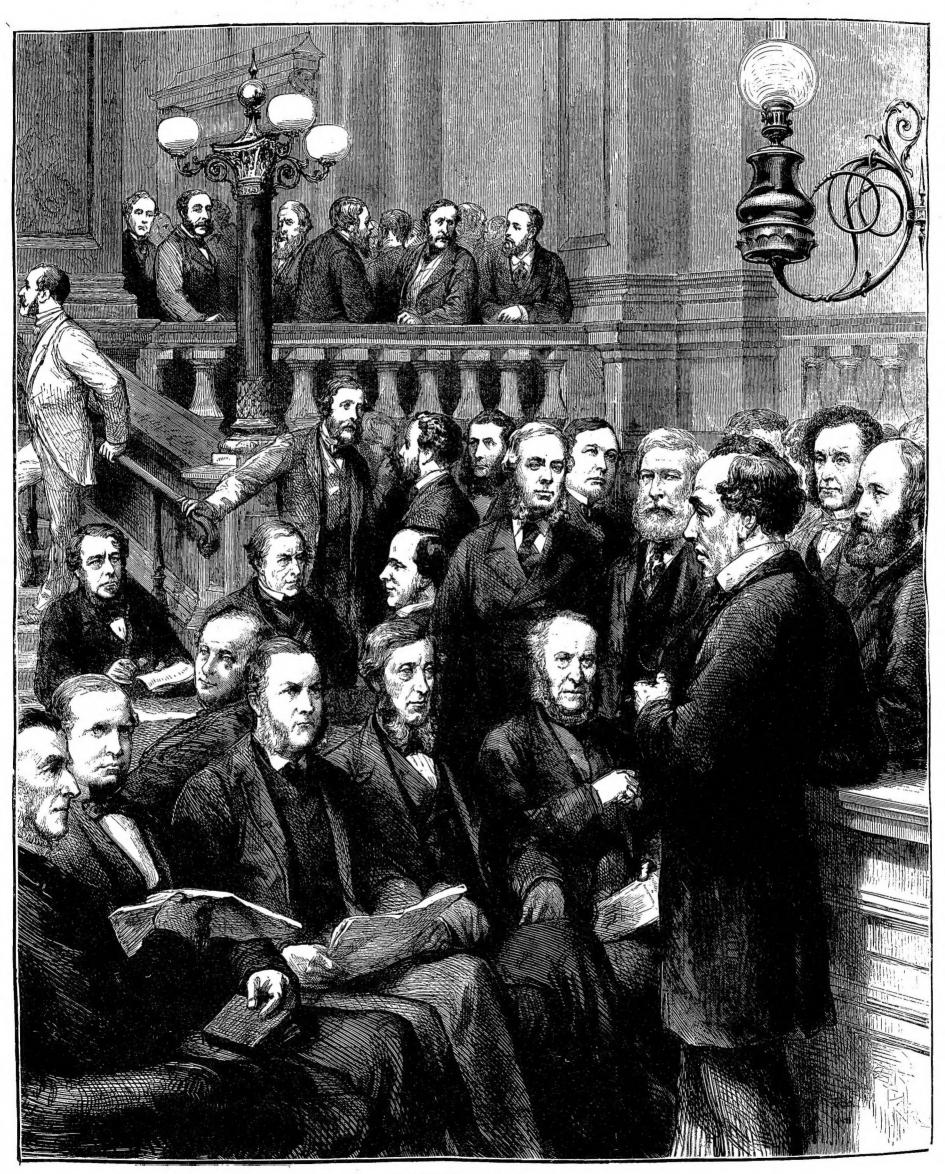
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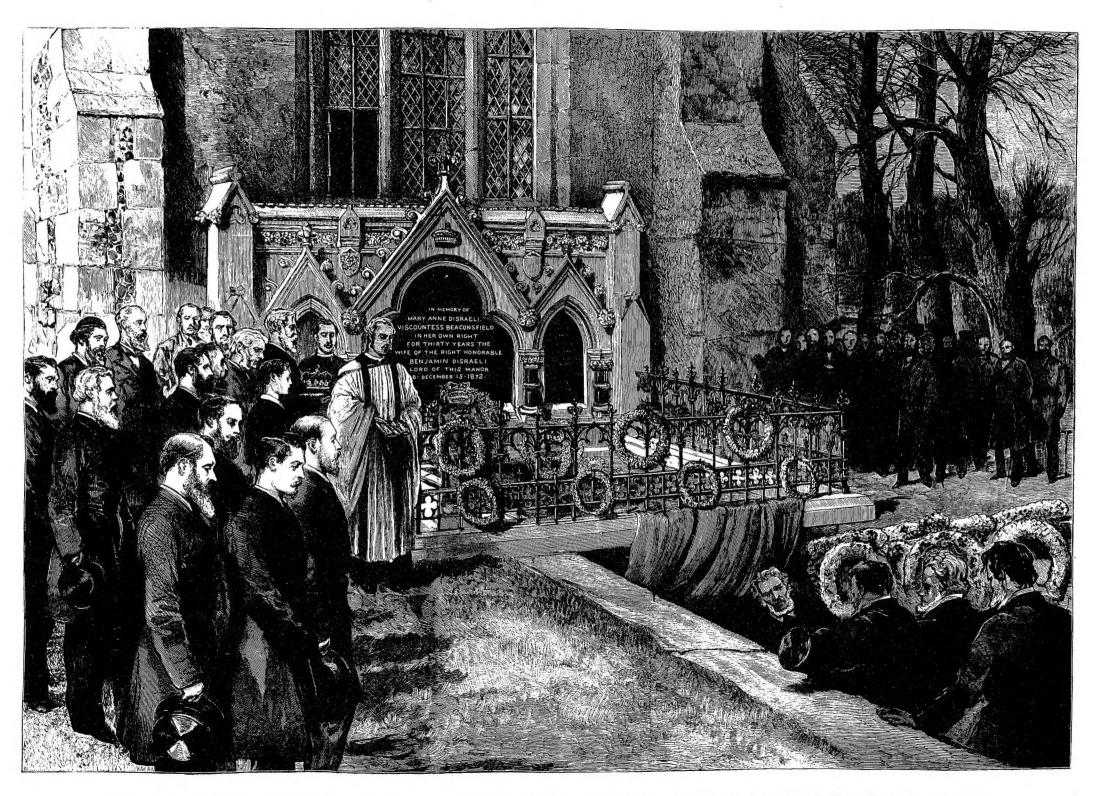
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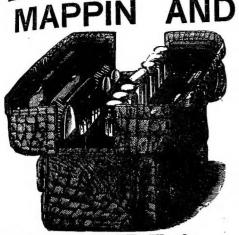


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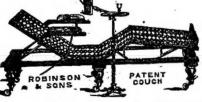
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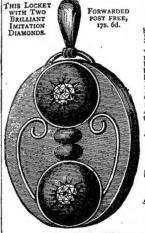
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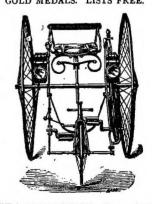
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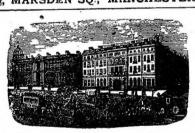
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